



Mayor Walsh Signs Home Rule Petition

To Provide Tax Relief To Long Time Homeowners

Mayor Martin J. Walsh today announced that he signed onto the Long-Term Homeowners Tax Deferral Home Rule Petition, proposed by Councilors Bill Linehan and Stephen J. Murphy. This effort will give qualifying homeowners the option to defer their property taxes to be paid with interest at a later date. “Residents should know that they have options in the face of rising property taxes,” said Mayor Walsh. “This is one of several steps the City of Boston is taking to give homeowners some relief immediately, while implementing

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Last Week’s Poll
On Page 2

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EDITORIAL

“Visualizing Spring”

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY
By Staff

Most folks - publishers and regular people included - feel the Editorial is the most important part of a newspaper. Sort of the space reserved for public announcements or policy. An editorial should never be used for frivolity such as sports coverage. Here at SB Today we agree and devote this editorial to weather tips and how to stay warm.

First of all in just over forty days the first buds of Spring will appear where 4 foot snow banks presently sit, unlike in a place like Seattle where it rains over 300 days a year. Remember, when it seems our six-state region is all alone and cut off from the other 44 states because of the snow and cold, that's

the same number who wanted our Patriots to lose. Maybe this thought will keep you warm. Perhaps you'll remember how cozy you were in front of your T. V. when Brady set the Super Bowl record for pass completions in the first half, and then broke the touchdown pass and total completion Super Bowl record. If you're still chilly, try to picture the ten 4th quarter points to mark the largest comeback in Super Bowl History as a warm memory.

If you realize this all happened against a Seattle defense that was reputed to be the greatest thing since sliced bread you're really heated up.

Finally, if you recall the look on Richard (u sad bro?) Sherman's face after “the Butler did it” - and Malcolm saved the day – then you're ready to see if your “speedo” still fits because you're ready for a hot beach day.

This has been a public service nouncement.



“A lot of people like snow. I find it to be unnecessary freezing water” - Carl Reiner

Last Week's Poll

SBT Readers Called It Right!

Who do you think will win

Super Bowl XLIX?

Here's how you voted:

New England Patriots 79%

Seattle Seahawks 21%



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Snow Flakes and Short Takes

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY

John Ciccone

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

Ok, Good news – sort of. There have been a couple of reported sightings of pavement; where people have claimed to have actually dug down so deep into the snow they believe they hit concrete or hardtop from sidewalks and streets. SBT will send out a squad to attempt to verify the validity of these reports and if there are in fact places where pavement is visible we'll take photos.

With the arrival of the latest storm, many scheduled meetings and gatherings around town have been cancelled or at least postponed. So, at least for this week, not too much to report in the line of breaking news in this column. One thing about weather like this, crime everywhere is way down because even the criminals tend to stay inside. So this week's column will be a

series of short takes and commentary.

Speaking of snow, was anyone really surprised that John Kerry felt no need to have his side walk shoveled at his downtown mansion? Just because everyone else is obligated to clear their walk way doesn't mean it applies to Kerry; or at least he seemed to think. Good work by the city official who ticketed and fined him for it.

The big news around the Bay State not counting the Patriots winning the Super Bowl was of course that Mitt Romney decided not to run for president. Good move on his part. He'll always be known as the governor from Massachusetts and the rest of the country will never again elect a president from this state. With the moonbat reputation Massachusetts has, it's a good bet that JFK was the last one. Many believe that JFK would be

disgusted if he were to come back and see what much of this state's politics have turned into. One only has to look at Senator Elizabeth Warren to understand that the moonbat label lives on.

Last week we all learned to our surprised that the Taliban are NOT terrorists. This is what the White House is now insisting. It was just 3 months ago that the Taliban kicked down the doors of a school in Afghanistan and massacred 120 school children, as well as their teachers. They send suicide bombers to public marketplaces to blow up everyone within range of the blast, cut off the heads of anyone who disagrees with them and stone women to death for trying to become educated or for not wearing the proper clothing. But according to Obama and his minions, the Taliban are NOT terrorists.

What is a terrorist Mr. Obama?

Just prior to this revelation about the Taliban, the US State Department met with leaders of the Muslim Brotherhood; a group also responsible for activities like the Taliban. But the Muslim Brotherhood are apparently not terrorists either, because they were treated like royalty when invited to the State Department meeting. After the meeting, the Muslim Brotherhood announced that they plan to continue their 'uncompromising Jihad' around the world. But again, the White House does not consider them terrorists. Hey Obama supporters are you starting to get it yet or will you continue to blindly worship this man, who seems hell-bent on destroying our country.

Moving along to the next batch of Islamic

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Window Into The State House

Window Into The State House provides our readers a synopsis of important issues of interest, past and current, that are being proposed, debated or acted upon by the Massachusetts Legislature. Many issues that are not related to local city government services are acted upon and have a direct impact on daily life. They are tax policy, transportation infrastructure, judicial appointments, social services and health, as well as higher education. We will excerpt reports from the gavel-to-gavel coverage of House and Senate sessions by news sources focused on this important aspect of our lives. These sources include a look ahead at the coming week in state government and summaries and analyses of the past week, re-caps of a range of state government activity, as well as links to other news.

Atrius Part Of National Health Care Task Force

With 75 percent of its business already coming from “value-based” alternatives to the fee-for-service payment model, Atrius Health believes it has the experience to help guide policy recommendations as part of a new national group aimed at bettering health care. “We have always been there, back to the founding,” said Emily Brower, executive director of Atrius Accountable Care Programs. Accountable care organizations take on the responsibility for providing health care without the a la carte payment method, and many in the health policy world see them as a vehicle to encourage more efficient

and better care.

The Newton-based health care provider group joined the new Health Care Transformation Task Force, which aims to improve outcomes and efficiency in the health field. Brower told the News Service organizations seeking to provide “value-based” health must first have a “foundation” of quality services and look for gaps in their infrastructure for treating particular maladies. “That can be hard to put that together,” said Brower. She said when other providers move toward “value-based” delivery “that helps us tremendously,” and she said payers have “absolutely” become more amenable to that model of payment. Atrius was formed in 2004 when

Dedham Medical Associates, Granite Medical Group, Harvard Vanguard Medical Associates and VNA Care Network & Hospice joined. Partners HealthCare, the largest provider organization in Massachusetts, announced Wednesday it would increase its “value-based” business from 50 to 75 percent in its primary care operations over the next five years. Partners is also part of the task force, which set the 75 percent goal. Brower said high-deductible health insurance plans can mesh with the aims of accountable care organizations as long as they do not discourage patients from seeking preventative care. - Andy Metzger/SHNS

MA Gas Prices Continue Descent

Gas prices in Massachusetts continued to fall last week and are down by an average of \$1.28 per gallon from a year ago. AAA of Southern New England reported Monday that prices dipped 2 cents a gallon over the past week, and are down 30 cents a gallon over the past month. AAA’s latest survey results, released on Monday, found gas averaging \$2.06 per gallon. Gas prices in Massachusetts are currently ranging from a low of \$1.87 to a high of \$2.49. - Michael Norton/SHNS

Groups To Host First Ever Sexual Health Lobby Day

Organizers of a lobby day Tuesday say they expects hundreds of people to fill Great Hall and call on lawmakers to expand access to sexual health services and education programs. According to Planned Parenthood of Massachusetts, 33 groups are hosting the first-ever “sexual health lobby day.” Expected speakers include Attorney General Maura Healey, Planned Parenthood board member Jamie Sabino and high school and college students and members of Planned Parenthood’s Get Real Teen Council. The speaking program begins at 10:30

a.m. - Michael Norton/SHNS Playoff Crab Winnings Still En Route From Seattle

With more foodstuffs on the line in the Super Bowl, the Baker administration is still awaiting delivery of their winnings from Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan for the New England Patriots victory over the Baltimore Ravens three weeks ago. “The snow has prevented delivery,” Hogan spokeswoman Shareese Churchill told the News Service on Friday. She said the delivery of the Maryland crabs Gov. Charlie Baker won was intended to take place two weeks ago and the goods should arrive Feb. 3. The Maryland crabs were wagered before the Patriots pulled a come-from-behind victory Jan. 10 over the Ravens earlier in the playoffs. “We never had any doubt that the governor would make good on his wager,” Baker spokesman Tim Buckley told the News Service. Baker is allergic to shellfish. Lt. Gov. Karyn Polito and Washington Lt. Gov. Brad Owen wagered local food and beverages on the Patriots-Seahawks contest on Sunday. If the Patriots win, Polito will send a case of beer from Wornmtown Brewery and a box of cannoli from Worcester’s Wholly Cannoli. Owen has promised a box of “superior” Washington apples, a bottle of Quilceda Creek wine, an “assorted package” of smoked salmon, tuna, herbal tea, and “Paddle to Quinault’ plush throw and wooden decorative carvings.” Baker did not bet anything on the Super Bowl, but he, New Hampshire Gov. Maggie Hassan and Washington Gov. Jay Inslee all promised to donate food - Springfield cupcakes, New Hampshire bacon and Seattle clam chowder - to local food pantries in the opposing team’s states regardless of the outcome of the game. - Andy Metzger/SHNS

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ReadingBetween TheLines

“Our Defenders”

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY
Brian R. Mahoney

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

In the old days, before our revolutionary ancestors were derided as “old dead white guys”, schools taught the history of our American revolution. This is the revolution that gave the world equal rights for all and the freedom to speak as a new form of government. That freedom to speak gave birth to some of the most inspirational speeches on the dignity of mankind. Today members of the ‘cowards’ revolution use the freedoms to attack the very system and its defenders that preserve those freedoms.

During our revolution our enemy, Britain, settled on a strategy to cut troublesome New England away from the other colonies. A military force was to come up the Hudson River to Albany. A second army was to come down from Ontario. A third army, led by General John Burgoyne, came from the west heading east.

The first British army never arrived and the second was blocked on the route by Fort Stanwix. The third, however, continued on to Saratoga where they engaged in a ferocious battle with American Continental Army troops. After initial stalemate the British, spurred on by General Fraser, began to drive the Americans back in a battle that probably would have defeated the Revolution, if victorious.

American General Daniel Morgan turned to a group of his best marksmen and ordered them to stop the rallying efforts of General Fraser. Timothy Murphy, who along with his brother John, saw action in the battle for Boston and the subsequent evacuation is credited with firing 3 long range shots, with the 3rd mortally wounding General Fraser and stopping the British advance.

It wasn’t until the 1800’s when the job description title of “marksmen” was changed to “sniper”.

During the annual parade, honoring America’s first victory,back in the 1950’s and 60’s one of the most anticipated parade participants was PFC Ramon Subejano. Born in the Phillipines, he came to America in the 1930’s and joined the Army after Pearl Harbor. Primarily serving as a sniper he was credited with over 400 Japanese and German kills. Barely 5’2”, chest festooned with medals and ribbons, he would stand, ramrod straight, in an open Army Jeep saluting the crowd.

Hundreds of years have passed between Tim Murphy and Ramon Subejano and on to today with “American sniper” Chris Kyle.

During that same time hundreds of thousands, if not millions, of inspirational words have been written. Yet, no matter how enlightening or inspirational or moving those words were to so many people, there have been those who couldn’t care less; who disregarded those words as, “just talk”. Equality, Democracy, the rights of every individual to speak were cast aside in favor of the state dictating life or, even worse, an dictator deciding for all.

Words, no matter how powerful they sound, are just words without the will to physically defend them. For the evil among us, speeches and treaties are just tools they use to enslave the rest of us. Evil will always have cowards such as Michael Moore and Howard Dean as supporters. As long as freedom has defenders like Tim Murphy, Ramon Subejano and Chris Kyle those cowards will never defeat the people.

Take care till next week.

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Introduction to College Writing	T/THR	2/10/15	5/26/15	9:15 am - 10:45 am	3
Business Computers I	M/W	2/9/15	5/27/15	9:15 am - 10:45 am	3
Math Problem Solving	M/W	2/9/15	5/27/15	10:45 am - 12:00 pm	3
Environmental Issues	W	2/11/15	5/27/15	6:00 pm - 9:00 pm	3
Introduction to Sociology	M	2/9/15	6/8/15	6:00 pm - 9:00 pm	3
Business Computers I	W	2/11/15	5/27/15	6:00 pm - 9:00 pm	3
Jeremiah Programming					
Endicott Transitions (EMPOWERMENT)	F	1/9/15	3/13/15	9:30 am -12:00 pm	1
Life Skills	F	3/27/15	5/8/15	9:30 am -12:00 pm	1

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Letter To The Editor

Letter to the Editor – Special treatment for the Elite 1%?

The Gate of Heaven School building and the current development proposal, which has prevented any other proposals from being considered due to legal reasons, has received overwhelming opposition from neighbors, community leaders, civic associations, and elected officials.

Nobody is shocked that there is a small contingent of people, who support the luxury condo proposal – they are in fact the developer and their associates. They stand to make money, and a lot of it. We have heard some proponents trash the idea of a charter school using their “code” to put fright in the minds on neighbors. Then there is the classic line of saying the building is going to fall down, again attempting to strike fear, only to have an engineer moments later tell the crowd how the building is in great shape. Head-scratcher I know. I tend to trust an engineer versus a “community liaison”.

Various public meetings going back a year have turned out swarms of neighbors standing virtually unanimously in opposition to the proposal. The mayor and other elected officials have been on record in opposition and the proposal had been declared as dead. However at the last meeting the developer’s associates disclosed private closed door meetings with the Mayor.

These developers are seeking a change to the rules, variances, as well as a zoning change - you name it. Does this mean the mayor is giving rich developers special treatment over the average resident?

-Sean Burke

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Flaherty and Linehan Create Residency Commission

Councilor-At-Large Michael Flaherty, working with Council President Bill Linehan, recently filed an order to create a Residency Policy Commission. The order passed in the City Council and was signed by Mayor Walsh.

Councilors Flaherty and Linehan created the Commission in response to the inconsistent residency requirements for city employees. The Residency Policy is a complicated and controversial issue that dates back to 1973 – when the first residency law was passed. Residency requirements are defined by city ordinance, collective bargaining agreements, and state law. This creates many different sets of requirements for different employees. Consistency and fairness are important to attract and retain the talented employees our city relies on every day.

The Commission’s goal is to examine the residency policies now in place in the City of Boston, and make recommendations on whether or not the policies should be changed. The Commission will be composed of seven members, and will present their findings to the City Council and Mayor this year.

Councilor Linehan said about the Commission: “Councilor Flaherty and I filed an order to create this commission in response to the inconsistent rules governing residency for city employees. We want to make sure any possible changes are discussed in an open, transparent forum, which this Commission provides. It is important we ensure that all city employees are treated fairly and equitably.”

Councilor Flaherty added, “During the previous administration, the enforcement of the residency policy was politically selective and very inconsistent. At times, this rule was altogether ignored. The Residency Policy Commission intends to improve equity among all City of Boston employees and their supervisors. My hope is that the recommendations by this Commission will offer an efficient solution for implementing and enforcing residency requirements.”

The Commission should be appointed this month. Meetings will be open to the public.

CONTINUED FROM front page

long-term solutions to combat rising housing costs.”

“I would like to thank Mayor Walsh for signing the Tax Deferral Home Rule Petition that I co-sponsored with Councilor Murphy,” said Councilor Bill Linehan. “This tax deferral program will give long term home owners that are land rich but cash poor much needed tax relief and will help them stay in their homes. I look forward to working with our State Legislature on getting this passed for the residents of Boston.”

“Councilor Linehan and I sponsored this Home Rule Petition to make certain that long term homeowners are able to stay in their homes,” said Councilor Stephen Murphy. “With the Mayor’s signature, we send this to Beacon Hill as a United City!”

The Long-Term Homeowner Tax Deferral is intended to provide relief to qualifying Boston homeowners who are having difficulty affording their real estate tax liability. A tax deferral is a tax agreement between the homeowner and the City, which allows the homeowner to defer their property taxes until the sale, transfer, or death of the owner. The current annual interest rate of 4% per year, will be applied at the time of payment. Because it is the City’s borrowing rate, there will be no fiscal impact on the City.

To qualify for the Long-Term Homeowner Tax Deferral, applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Aged 55 or older as of July 1 of the tax year;
- Owned and occupied the property for at least 10 years as of July 1 of the tax year;
- Gross income not exceeding the income limit for the “Circuit Breaker” state income tax credit for single seniors who are not heads of household established by the state’s Department of Revenue;
- Real estate tax liability, as reduced by abatements, that exceeds the prior year real estate tax liability, as reduced by abatements, by 10% or more.
- Submit a deferral application within (3) months after the date on which the 3rd quarter tax bill or notice of assessment was sent or by April 1 of the tax year, whichever is later.

The Long-Term Homeowners Tax Deferral Home Rule Petition is modeled after an existing property tax deferral program available to seniors over the age of 65, who own and occupy their property as their primary residence. Last year, 28 applicants qualified for the senior’s tax deferral for seniors. For more information, contact the Mayor’s 24-hour hotline at 617-635-4500.



City Council To Vote On Olympics Referendum

By the time this newspaper was going to print, the Boston City Council was going to be considering a voter referendum on the Olympics coming to Boston. City Councilor Josh Zakim planned to bring to the City Council Chamber, a vote on whether or not voters get to decide on the following questions:

1. Should Boston host the 2024 Summer Olympic & Paralympic Games (the “Games”)? YES/NO
2. If Boston were to host the 2024 Olympics, should the City commit any public money to support the Games? YES/NO
3. If Boston were to host the 2024 Olympics, should the City make any financial guarantees to cover cost overruns for the Games? YES/NO
4. If Boston were to host the 2024 Olympics, should the City use its power of eminent domain to take private land on behalf of the Games? YES/NO

Councilor Zakim’s reason for pushing the referendum is spelled out in a quote from his press release. “I have heard from Bostonians in my own district and across the city who are justifiably worried about

how they will commute to work, or whether their tax dollars will be used to finance Olympic construction and operations.”

The Olympic Committee and Mayor Walsh have both promised that no public money will be spent on the games. The Olympic Committee and the City Hall administration have a gag order that the mayor claims he will not enforce. A separate agreement with Olympic Committee won’t allow the City to release certain plans. After getting hit with higher property tax bills, tax breaks for corporations and developers, residents are wondering what they are in for.

The proposal could put Mayor Martin J. Walsh in a difficult position. Walsh has said he is against a referendum on the Olympics, but acknowledged last month that he supported citizens’ right to collect signatures to put the issue on the ballot.

Zakim’s proposed ordinance does not involve collecting signatures from registered voters. Instead, it uses a different route to get the referendums on the ballot: the City Council. If the measure passes the 13-member council, the ordinance would go to Walsh’s desk. It would force the mayor either to sign the measure and allow the questions to appear on the ballot, or block the effort and quash a vote.

In an interview, Zakim described himself as “open-minded” about a Boston Olympics. Given the

inevitable effects the Games would have on Boston, voters should have a say on whether to play host. “I don’t believe this is a pro- or anti-Olympics proposal,” Zakim said. “I think everyone is excited that Boston was chosen. I think everyone knows that

Boston can do it. They are trying to get the information we need to decide if we should do it.”

Mayor Walsh, who would need to approve Councilor Zakim’s order should it receive a majority of the City Council’s votes, has said that if enough signatures are gathered statewide, he’d gladly abide by a vote. Right now, it’s unclear how Mayor Walsh plans to proceed. “It’s too early in the process to say as it was just filed and the Mayor still needs to review the proposal,” said Oggeri. “The Mayor looks forward to engaging in a robust community process, including working with all elected officials, as we move forward with Boston’s Olympic bid.”

The severe MBTA delays on all subway lines prompted some to compare the frustrating congestion to what Boston could look like if it’s chosen to host the 2024 Summer Olympic Games. What city councilors will vote against the referendum and why? This historic effort to site the 2024 Olympics here in Boston will continue to unfold.

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A Supplemental Information Package will be available starting **February 18, 2015** on the Capital Bid Opportunities webpage of Massport <http://www.massport.com/doing-business/layouts/CapitalPrograms/default.aspx> as an attachment to the original Legal Notice, on COMMBUYS (www.commbuys.com) in the listings for this project or by contacting Susan Brace at Capital Programs SBrace@massport.com.

The Supplemental Information Package will provide detailed information about Scope Of Work, Selection Criteria and Submission Requirements.

The Authority expects to select one consultant for this project. However, the Authority reserves the right to select a different number if it is deemed in its best interest to do so. Each consultant shall be issued a contract in an amount not to exceed **FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$ 500,000)**. The services shall be authorized on a work order basis.

The selection shall involve a two-step process including the shortlisting of firms based on an evaluation of the Statements of Qualifications received in response to this solicitation, followed immediately by a final selection of the consultant(s) by the Authority.

By responding to this solicitation, consultants agree to accept the terms and conditions of Massport's standard work order agreement, a copy of the Authority's standard agreement can be found on the Authority's web page at www.massport.com. The Consultant shall specify in its cover letter that it has the ability to obtain requisite insurance coverage.

This submission, including the litigation and legal proceedings history in a separate sealed envelope as required shall be addressed to Houssam H. Sleiman, PE, CCM, Director of Capital Programs and Environmental Affairs and received no later than 12:00 Noon on **Thursday, April 2, 2015** at the Massachusetts Port Authority, Logan Office Center, One Harborside Drive, Suite 209S, Logan International Airport, East Boston, MA 02128-2909. Any submission which is not received in a timely manner shall be rejected by the Authority as non-responsive. Any information provided to the Authority in any Proposal or other written or oral communication between the Proposer and the Authority will not be, or deemed to have been, proprietary or confidential, although the Authority will use reasonable efforts not to disclose such information to persons who are not employees or consultants retained by the Authority except as may be required by M.G.L. c.66.

**MASSACHUSETTS PORT AUTHORITY
THOMAS P. GLYNN
CEO AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**



Council Passes Tax Deferral Home Rule Petition

Councilors Linehan, Murphy, and Ciommo filed a home rule petition to defer property taxes for long-term homeowners. Mayor Walsh signed the measure, and since it deals with tax policy it will now go to the state legislature for approval. Councilor Linehan filed this matter during previous legislative sessions, but due to technical language changes the state legislature requested the matter had to be re-filed this year. Councilor Linehan expects the petition to pass the legislature this time. Councilor Linehan feels the Property Tax Deferral for Long Term Homeowners is vital to keeping our communities strong. The ordinance will create an opportunity for long time owner-occupied home owners to defer half of their taxes until the property is sold.

Councilor Linehan said of the bill; "I thank Councilors Murphy and Ciommo for their support, and I look forward to the state legislature making this a reality for Boston homeowners. Many long-time residents of Boston face continued tax increases based on assessments of their property that continue to grow in value. They bought modest homes decades ago and now find themselves living in the middle of one of the hottest real estate markets in the country, resulting in an exponential spike in property taxes. This deferral will give long-term homeowners some much-needed tax relief and help them to stay in their homes. I thank Mayor Walsh for his support, which will be invaluable in making this bill a reality for Boston. The program will help those living on a fixed income who struggle with the rising costs of living in Boston."

CONTINUED FROM page 3

Radical nut jobs brings us to ISIS. They had a busy week beheading Japanese hostages and have apparently burned alive a Jordanian pilot. Ah, but the country of Jordan is not as passive as our White House. The Jordanian King responded to the ISIS threat by letting them know that if their pilot is killed, Jordan will execute every last ISIS prisoner they now hold in custody. They have begun to make good on that response. THIS folks is how you deal with rabid animals. In a war with these terrorists, you need to be even more brutal than they are.

By the way, surveys have shown that Obama's approval rating among members of the American military is down to 15%. But, he is said to have a 90% approval rating among terrorist prisoners still being held at GITMO.

The new Republican governor of Texas, Gregg Abbott, is apparently following in the footsteps of their former governor Rick Perry. Perry never shied away from recognizing great Americans and rewarding patriotism. Governor Abbott has officially designated this past Monday, February 2nd as American Sniper Chris Kyle Day. A new Texas holiday has been created. When Governor Abbott made the announcement, the large crowd in attendance rose from their seats and gave him a rousing standing ovation. What can you say? God Bless Texas.

Back to Washington DC, the US Senate is actually considering confirming Loretta Lynch for Attorney General to replace Eric Holder. Now most agree, anyone would be an improvement over Holder but is she really? Here is a woman who wants to be the top cop in the nation, yet, she already stated in the hearing that she will not enforce some of the laws in place regarding immigration. In addition to that, Lynch stated bluntly that she believes that illegal aliens who sneak into the country have as much right to American jobs as do American citizens. Just by these statements, she should be disqualified from holding the office she is seeking, but the odds are there are not enough US Senators with the courage to vote against confirming her. If she does get the job, since she as top cop can pick and choose which laws she will obey and enforce and which one's she will ignore, shouldn't every American citizen be able to do the same?

Recent South Boston Real Estate Sales

Property/Type	Price	Sale Date	Rooms	Baths	Sq Ft
184 K St UNIT 2 Condo	\$910,000	11/25/14	5	2	1950
403 West First St UNIT 201 Condo	\$829,000	12/1/14	4	2	1650
478 East Seventh Street Three Family	\$650,000	12/1/14	11	3	2151
235 Gold St UNIT 3 Condo	\$629,000	11/25/14	4	2	1270
227 E Street Single Family	\$610,000	12/5/14	7	2.5	1470
160 West Sixth Street Single Family	\$599,000	12/4/14	6	2.5	1782
1 Onslow Terrace Single Family	\$599,000	12/2/14	8	2	1896
150 Dorchester St UNIT 107 Condo	\$589,000	11/25/14	4	1	1121
345 D St UNIT 8 Condo	\$585,000	11/26/14	4	1.5	879
181 H ST UNIT 1 Condo	\$529,000	12/5/14	5	2	1060
759 East Seventh St UNIT 1 Condo	\$508,000	11/25/14	4	1.5	1153
12 Grimes Street Single Family	\$502,100	11/25/14	5	1.5	1202
1 Fourth Street Place Single Family	\$491,000	12/5/14	5	1	1040
881 East First St UNIT 403 Condo	\$489,000	12/4/14	1	1	1051
47-51 Dorchester St UNIT 11 Condo	\$418,000	12/5/14	4	1	725
64 Gates St UNIT 3 Condo	\$406,000	12/1/14	4	1	683
383 Silver Street Single Family	\$353,000	12/4/14	6	1	910
58 Telegraph St UNIT 3 Condo	\$350,500	12/5/14	3	1	623
252 E St UNIT 3 Condo	\$325,000	12/3/14	3	1	510
128 West Ninth St UNIT B Condo	\$265,000	11/26/14	4	1	630

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING ON SITE CLEAN-UP ACTIVITIES

On-Terminal Areas
900 East First Street, South Boston
MassDEP RTN 3-00257
Former Owner: Coastal Oil of New England (CONE)
Current Owner: Massachusetts Port Authority (Massport)
Thursday February 26, 2015

As part of the Public Involvement Process for the site at 900 East First Street, Massport will host a public information meeting about the remediation and assessment activities for this site. The site is tracked by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) under Release Tracking Number (RTN) 3-00257. The purpose of this meeting is to provide information on the continued cleanup of the site pursuant to the Massachusetts Contingency Plan (MCP).

The meeting will be held in the Senior Lunch Room of the Curley Community Center located at 1663 Columbia Road, South Boston, on Thursday February 26, 2015 at 7:00 PM. Please use the M Street entrance. This meeting was originally scheduled for Wednesday, January 28, 2015 but was cancelled due to weather.

Copies of the assessment and remediation documents are available for review at the South Boston Public Library and MassDEP, Northeast Regional Office, 205B Lowell Street, Wilmington, MA 01876 or on-line at http://public.dep.state.ma.us/wsc_viewer/.

Interested parties may also submit written questions or concerns to Erik Bankey at Massport's Environmental Management Unit Office, One Harborside Drive, East Boston, MA 02128 or by e-mail at ebankey@massport.com.



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Gov. Baker - "Lot Of Work" Ahead On Transportation Front

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY
By Andy Metzger
STATE HOUSE NEWS SERVICE

With snow-related malfunctions leaving MBTA riders stuck in the cold, Gov. Charlie Baker said he plans to speak with Transportation Secretary Stephanie Pollack about measures that could be taken relatively quickly to avoid a repeat of the recent transit failures.

"I'm planning to have this conversation with the secretary over the course of the next couple of weeks," Baker told reporters Tuesday after outlining a budget-balancing plan that features spending reductions. "I'd like to have this conversation with the secretary once it stops snowing."

Asserting there's "a lot of work to do in transportation," Baker said the "big issue" in the transit system is the "utility and availability of a variety of trains," including replacing some trains in service for 40 years, and expressed hope that train production procurement litigation will end quickly.

Baker helped lead the successful

push last year for a law repealing the 2013 law that indexed the gas tax to inflation, an effort that critics said would pull money away from needed investments.

Asked where the state would find money to fix broken transit equipment, Baker said he had not disputed the 3-cent per gallon increase in the gas tax in 2013. "First of all I've been here for three weeks so give me a little bit of time to work my way through that one," Baker said.

According to MBTA spokesman Joe Pesaturo, vehicle shortages at the start of Tuesday led to the Red, Orange and Blue lines running about 50 percent of a regular weekday schedule. He said the Green Line was closer to 80 percent of a regular schedule and said that the T should be better positioned for the evening commute. The system's failures came as government officials were encouraging commuters to stay off snow-clogged roads and use public transportation to get to and from work.

"It's a very expensive

undertaking. It's the oldest system in the country. It requires a lot of resources to just maintain," Senate President Stanley Rosenberg told reporters in a briefing held in his office Tuesday. He said, "The transportation agenda is far bigger than the public's appetite to find it and that's just been demonstrated repeatedly over the years, but it is a core function of government and it is something that will continue to be discussed and debated as to what we're going to do."

Speaking by speaker phone at the same briefing held to discuss agenda-setting meetings the Senate plans to hold around the state, Senate Minority Leader Bruce Tarr said the problems faced by the MBTA are "deeply concerning."

In a phone interview about Boston's bid for the 2024 Summer Games, former Transportation Secretary Richard Davey said transportation officials did a good job under challenging conditions. A transportation activist concurred.

"The T has been amazing at making the equipment that they have work," Conservation Law

Foundation senior attorney Rafael Mares told the News Service. He said, "The reality is that this was a huge snowstorm followed by a particularly cold temperature." Mares said all of the Orange Line cars are from the 1980s and one third of the Red Line vehicles are from 1969.

Baker said part of his plan for dealing with a midyear budget gap



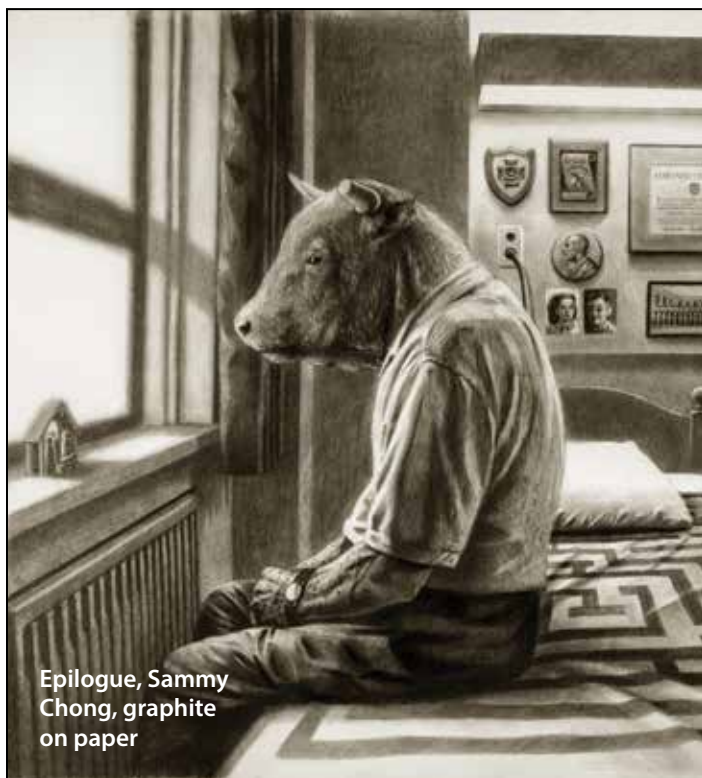
will include seeking another \$50 million for clearing snow and ice and said the impact of last week's blizzard and this week's snow might not be known until April.

After low snowfall totals to start the winter, Massachusetts has been hit with a wave of snowstorms that have broken some records. Last week's blizzard was on par with a 2013 blizzard that Baker said cost between \$20 million and \$30 million to clean up. State transportation officials say this year's budget set aside \$100 million for state snow and ice removal, which does not account for local road maintenance.

"This is not just a harsh winter," Baker said. "It's the largest and most significant snowstorm ever over the course of the past ten days in Greater Boston, combined with a significant amount of arctic-like temperatures."

Boston Mayor Martin Walsh estimated the blizzard cleanup cost at about \$10 million. During his own morning briefing, Walsh said it was possible that the city would "shatter" its snow removal budget.

[Michael Deehan and Michael Norton contributed reporting]



Epilogue, Sammy Chong, graphite on paper



Vermont Studio Portrait, Elisa H. Hamilton, Crayon, ink, gouache, and oil pastel on paper



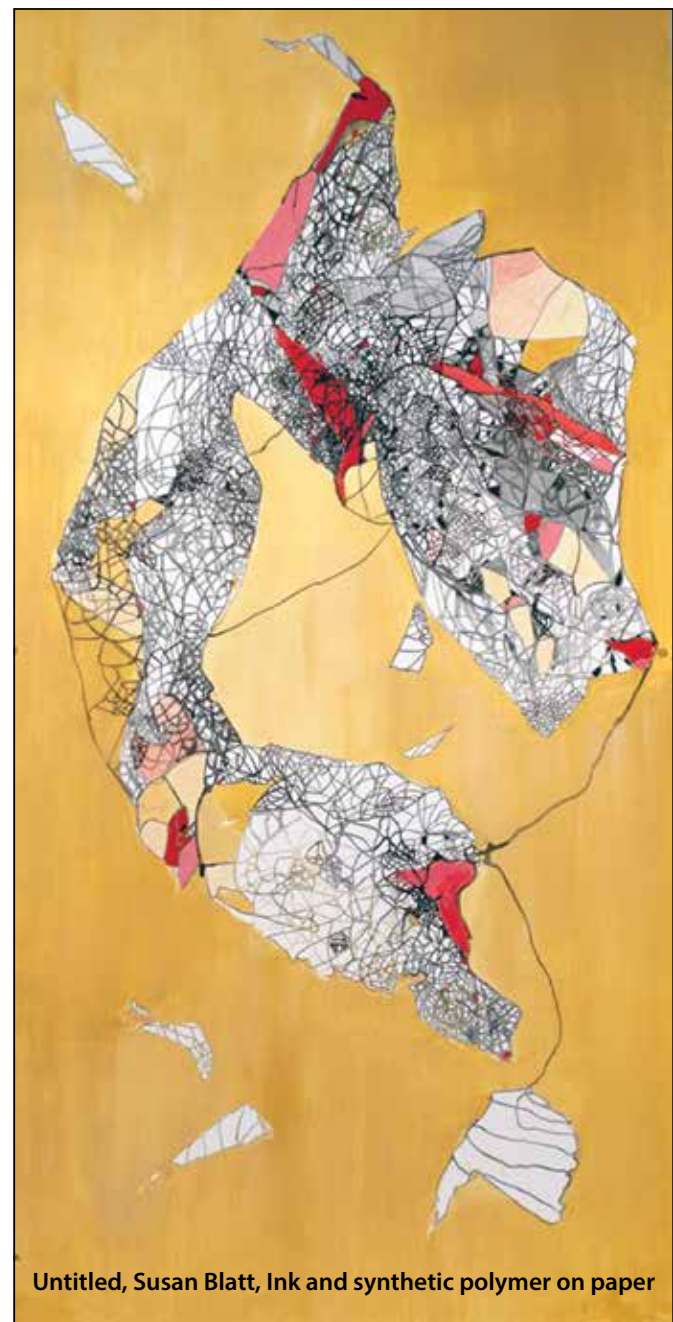
Dinner Antics, by Candice Smith Corby, gouache and watercolor on paper



Necco, Laura Davidson, silverpoint drawing on paper



Reaching II, Maggie Connors, clay, graphite on prepared paper



Untitled, Susan Blatt, Ink and synthetic polymer on paper

Fort Point Arts Community Presents: Drawing The Line January 26—March 20, 2015

The Fort Point Arts Community (FPAC) announces a new exhibition at Atlantic Wharf Gallery: Drawing The Line is an exhibition of drawings by seventeen artists, juried by Stephanie Walker of Walker Contemporary. The show includes traditional approaches to drawing, including graphite, silverpoint, ink, and pastel as well as digital drawings and needlework.

"I was excited to see so many different approaches to drawing. So much of the work seemed to stem from an organic place—artists putting pen or pencil to paper and letting an idea just flow, but all the results were so different. I love how unique each expression is," said juror Stephanie Walker.

The show is open daily, 7am-10pm, January 26 through March 20.

ARTISTS:

Susan Blatt, Sammy Chong, Maggie Connors, Laura Davidson, Ruth Fields, Jason Fiering, Sarah Gay-O'Neill, Elisa H. Hamilton, T.D. Heavican, Jan Johnson, Lisa Knox, Maria Molteni, Steven Muller, Krina Patel, Alexandra Rozenman, Jonathan Sahula, Candice Smith Corby

Opening Reception: Tuesday February 3, 5-730pm

The Fort Point Arts Community programs The Gallery at Atlantic Wharf with support from Boston Properties. Atlantic Wharf is located at 290 Congress Street and open daily to the public 7am-10pm.

Guest juror: Stephanie Walker, Walker Contemporary

Stephanie Walker, owner, Walker Contemporary, has over sixteen years of experience as a contemporary art

dealer. Walker began her career at a gallery specializing in 19th & 20th century American impressionist work and then became the Director of a contemporary art gallery on Newbury Street, where she remained for more than eight years. Walker also spent a year living in Los Angeles; traveling all over the country and especially up and down the West coast to fairs, galleries and artists' studios. It was a pivotal opportunity that solidified and deepened her passion for working with contemporary art and artists. Walker is deeply committed to the advancement of outstanding contemporary art through the promotion of dedicated, innovative and passionate, emerging, mid-career and established artists.

About FPAC

The Fort Point Arts Community, Inc. of South Boston (FPAC) is a

non-profit community organization founded in 1980 and run by neighborhood artists and volunteers. Our mission is to promote the work of our artists to a broad and diverse audience; to preserve the artists' community in the Fort Point Channel area; to maintain and expand access to affordable studio space; and to increase the visibility of the arts in Fort Point

Fort Point artists generate art all year round, present two Open Studios events annually, advocate for the development and preservation of permanent studio space, organize art lending programs, run galleries and a store, create temporary public art, and actively participate in decisions that affect our neighborhood. We encourage new ideas, collaboration, connections, and economic growth.



What a Party! Garth Brooks at Boston's TD Garden

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY

By Jessica Grande

There was a time when Country Music was thought to be the genre of the South, the West and Heartland America. But as far as the Northeast, well, maybe not so much. Though that was never really the case, Country has always had a significant following in New England and that certainly includes Boston, what took place over the weekend was truly amazing. Coming out of a 17 year retirement just made his fans all the more enthusiastic to see their hero. But anytime and anyplace Garth Brooks comes to town it's on a scale that's off the charts.

Six sell-out shows at the 'Garden' puts this into the mega show category and when I was asked to cover one of those shows by South Boston Today I jumped at the opportunity. Brooks is a performer with a following that rivals the

Beatles and Elvis when they were at their peaks and that would include record sales through the stratosphere.

With Boston now having 2 Country Music stations on the air, the word got out early and the anticipation and excitement was running high for weeks leading up to the concerts and the fans; tens of thousands of fans were not disappointed in the least. His wife, Trisha Yearwood; a Country Music Phenom herself was along for the ride and complimented the performance. But it was the energy level generated on stage by this dynamic couple that literally rocked the garden like it had not been rocked in quite some time.

This was beyond a mere concert. A religious experience was how it was described by some of the more fanatical in the crowd. From emotional ballads like 'Unanswered Prayers' to rowdy rockers like Papa Loves Mama, Brooks has the ability to get people standing and dancing in the isles one minute; actually putting them into a near

frenzy and then bring them almost to tears the very next song and then launch them right back up again a few minutes later. The crowd participation is incredible since everyone; and I mean everyone in the Garden seemed to know every word of every song and at the encouragement of Brooks sang right along as loud as they could. This was a party that no one could deny.

And the band? What can you say about his back up? They are probably some of the most musically coordinated performers and musicians in music today. From hard driving rockers with that Country twang to the slow ballads, they complimented Brooks to the max and added to the energy that was electrifying to the thousands of happy fans; who pretty much throughout the entire show were having the time of their lives.

If there is one thing that can be said about a Country Music concert, it's that having fun is the main desire. While some Rock or Rap artists are at times

a bit too caught up in their own importance and strive to come across as cool, trendy and hip to their fans, this type of egotism is seldom if ever present at a Country Music concert. The performers are comfortable with their fans and relate to them well. The feeling is that the fans and the performers on stage are friends; almost like family and a bond is formed between them. Country artists are also not shy about expressing their belief in God and love of country and Brooks is no exception. This is something else artist and fans and Country concerts have in common.

Garth Brooks has that ability to make everyone feel at home and appreciated. He lets you know that by attending his shows and buying those tickets, you are doing him the favor and he is grateful for the honor of having the chance to entertain you. And this speaks to the devoted following country artists have and does much to explain why the popularity of the genre continues to grow.

Six sold out shows would tire any normal human being out, especially on the nights when there were more than one on the same night and particularly with the nonstop pure physical energy that Brooks uses on stage. But if there was fatigue among him, Trisha Yearwood or the band, it did not show. In fact, the longer the show went on, the higher the energy level climbed almost making everyone wonder if the building itself would hold up without cracking at its foundation.

And then after this rousing performance, the show was over. But rather than disappointment that it had come to an end, the satisfaction level was such that everyone filed out of the Garden happy, excited, animated and content almost as if they had somehow been part of possible history in the making. After a nearly 2 decades absence, Garth Brooks had returned with a vengeance; perhaps even better than ever to party with his fans. It was truly an unforgettable experience.



SAT Prep Course Offered at BCYF Curley Center

SAT scores aren't the only thing a college or university considers when reviewing your application, but SAT scores weigh heavily on their decision to admit you.

Feeling well-prepared for the test is an integral part of achieving the best results. Taking a test prep class can instill the necessary confidence that can alleviate the stress associated with the exams.

The BCYF Curley Community Center, 1663 Columbia Road is offering a 5 week course, Mondays & Wednesdays, 6:30-8pm, leading up to the March 14th SAT Test. Beginning on Monday, February 9 and ending on the Wednesday before the test, students will take part in ten 90 minute sessions in the Curley Teen Center aided by a computer lab to enhance their studies. Our experienced facilitator will also be available before class to help with any problem

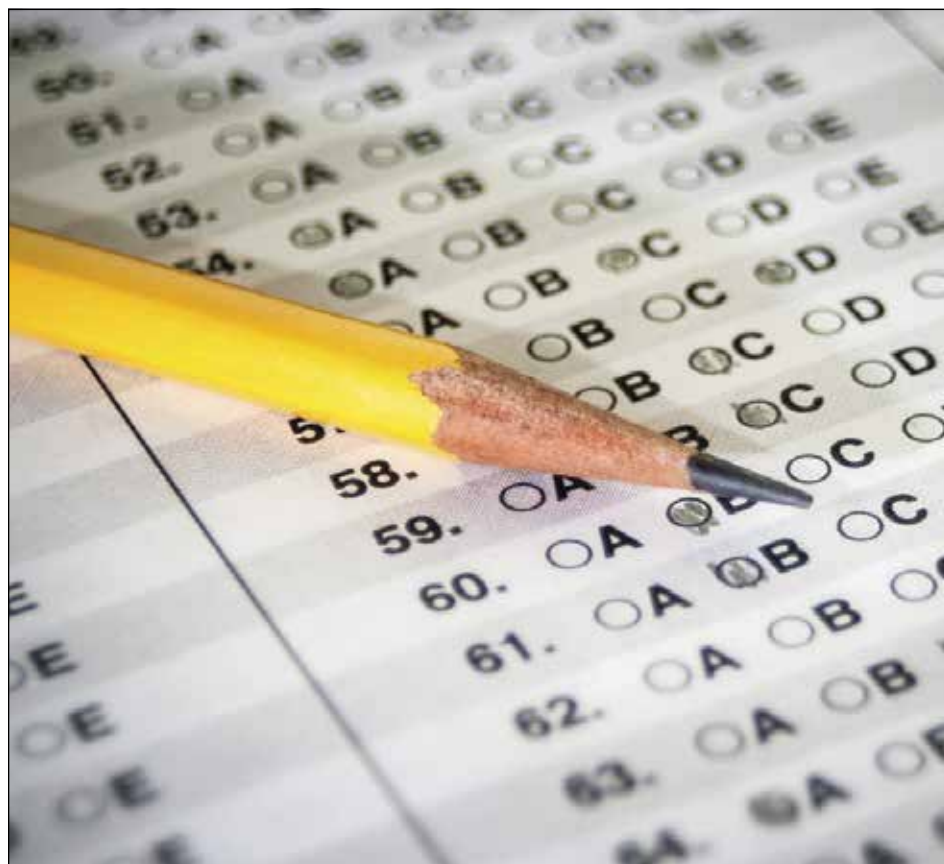
areas. Cost for this 5 week course conveniently located at the "L" is only \$199 with books and other materials included. There are only 12 slots available for this session.

Please don't wait, call today (617)635-5104 and ask for Youth Worker Barbara Kelly. Remember, the SAT is like any other test. If you prepare for it, you'll get a better score. To do well on the SAT you must practice for it. **But you don't have to try to prepare for the SAT on your own.** Studies show that students who enroll in SAT preparation courses increase their scores nearly 80 points while test takers preparing on their own increase their score only 40 points.

Spring of the junior year is an important time to prepare for the SAT—and if you have a student planning on taking one of these tests, it's time to start getting prepared!

Register now for our upcoming SAT course beginning February 9th to help your son or daughter reduce test anxiety and to achieve the best possible scores.

Call today (617)635-5104 and ask for Youth Worker Barbara Kelly. Limited seats available.







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NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

Sealed General Bids for MPA Contract No. **M498-C1, MARITIME EMERGENCY CONTROL CENTER, SOUTH BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS** will be received by the Massachusetts Port Authority at the Capital Programs Department Office, Suite 209S - Logan Office Center, One Harborside Drive, East Boston, Massachusetts 02128-2909, until 11:00 A.M. local time on **WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 2015**, immediately after which, in a designated room, the bids will be opened and read publicly.

Sealed filed sub bids for the same contract will be received at the same office until 11:00 A.M. local time on **WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 2015**, immediately after which, in a designated room, the filed sub bids will be opened and read publicly.

NOTE: PRE BID CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD AT THE MASSPORT MARITIME SECURITY CONFERENCE ROOM AT 212 NORTHERN AVENUE, FISH PIER EAST (ENTER BUILDING AT 2ND ARCHWAY ON THE RIGHT, TAKE ELEVATOR TO THIRD FLOOR), SOUTH BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS AT **10:00 AM. LOCAL TIME ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2015**.

The work includes **CONSTRUCTION OF TWO ROOMS WITHIN MASSPORT'S FISH PIER OFFICES INCLUDING FILED-SUB BID WORK FOR PLUMBING, HVAC, AND ELECTRICAL TRADES (INCLUDING A ROOF-TOP BACK-UP GENERATOR) AS WELL AS LIMITED WORK INVOLVING SELECTIVE DEMOLITION, MISCELLANEOUS METALS, SEALANTS, DOORS AND HARDWARE, GLASS AND GLAZING, WINDOW TREATMENTS, LIGHT GAGE FRAMING AND DRYWALL, RESILIENT FLOORING, ACOUSTICAL CEILINGS, AND PAINTING. WORK ALSO INCLUDES MODIFICATIONS TO EXISTING SPRINKLERS, STRUCTURAL STEEL, CARPENTRY, MILLWORK, AND ROOFING.** Bid documents will be made available beginning **WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2015**.

Bid Documents in electronic format may be obtained free of charge at the Authority's Capital Programs Department Office, together with any addenda or amendments, which the Authority may issue and a printed copy of the Proposal form.

In order to be eligible and responsible to bid on this contract General Bidders must submit with their bid a current Certificate of Eligibility issued by the Division of Capital Asset Management & Maintenance and an Update Statement. The General Bidder must be certified in the category of **GENERAL BUILDING CONSTRUCTION**. The estimated contract cost is **FOUR HUNDRED, NINETY-ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$491,000.00)**.

In order to be eligible and responsible to bid on this contract, filed Sub-bidders must submit with their bid a current Sub-bidder Certificate of Eligibility issued by the Division of Capital Asset Management & Maintenance and a Sub-bidder Update Statement. The filed Sub-bidder must be certified in the sub-bid category of work for which the Sub-bidder is submitting a bid proposal.

Bidding procedures and award of the contract and sub contracts shall be in accordance with the provisions of Sections 44A through 44H inclusive, Chapter 149 of the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

A proposal guaranty shall be submitted with each General Bid consisting of a bid deposit for five (5) percent of the value of the bid; when sub bids are required, each must be accompanied by a deposit equal to five (5) percent of the sub bid amount, in the form of a bid bond, or cash, or a certified check, or a treasurer's or a cashier's check issued by a responsible bank or trust company, payable to the Massachusetts Port Authority in the name of which the Contract for the work is to be executed. The bid deposit shall be (a) in a form satisfactory to the Authority, (b) with a surety company qualified to do business in the Commonwealth and satisfactory to the Authority, and (c) conditioned upon the faithful performance by the principal of the agreements contained in the bid.

The successful Bidder will be required to furnish a performance bond and a labor and materials payment bond, each in an amount equal to 100% of the Contract price. The surety shall be a surety company or securities satisfactory to the Authority. Attention is called to the minimum rate of wages to be paid on the work as determined under the provisions of Chapter 149, Massachusetts General Laws, Section 26 to 27G, inclusive, as amended. The Contractor will be required to pay minimum wages in accordance with the schedules listed in Division II, Special Provisions of the Specifications, which wage rates have been predetermined by the U. S. Secretary of Labor and /or the Commissioner of Labor and Industries of Massachusetts, whichever is greater.

The successful Bidder will be required to purchase and maintain Bodily Injury Liability Insurance and Property Damage Liability Insurance for a combined single limit of \$1,000,000. Said policy shall be on an occurrence basis and the Authority shall be included as an Additional Insured. See the insurance sections of Division I, General Requirements and Division II, Special Provisions for complete details.

Filed sub bids will be required and taken on the following classes of work:

- **HEATING, VENTILATING, AND AIR CONDITIONING (\$28,000.00)**
- **PLUMBING (\$41,000.00)**
- **ELECTRICAL (\$207,000.00)**

The Authority reserves the right to reject any sub bid of any sub trade where permitted by Section 44E of the above referenced General Laws. The right is also reserved to waive any informality in or to reject any or all proposals and General Bids.

This contract is subject to a Minority/Women Owned Business Enterprise participation provision requiring that not less than **FOUR AND ONE HALF PERCENT (4.5%)** of the Contract be performed by minority and women owned business enterprise contractors. With respect to this provision, bidders are urged to familiarize themselves thoroughly with the Bidding Documents. Strict compliance with the pertinent procedures will be required for a bidder to be deemed responsive and eligible.

This Contract is also subject to Affirmative Action requirements of the Massachusetts Port Authority contained in the Non Discrimination and Affirmative Action article of Division I, General Requirements and Covenants, and to the Secretary of Labor's Requirement for Affirmative Action to Ensure Equal Opportunity and the Standard Federal Equal Opportunity Construction Contract Specifications (Executive Order 11246).

The General Contractor is required to submit a Certification of Non Segregated Facilities prior to award of the Contract, and to notify prospective subcontractors of the requirement for such certification where the subcontract exceeds \$10,000.

Complete information and authorization to view the site may be obtained from the Capital Programs Department Office at the Massachusetts Port Authority. The right is reserved to waive any informality in or reject any or all proposals.

MASSACHUSETTS PORT AUTHORITY
THOMAS P. GLYNN
CEO & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Red Sox In Running For Top Prospect

Another offseason wrinkle could be in store for the Red Sox this offseason.

Yoan Moncada, a Cuban born top MLB prospect is poised to be cleared by the MLB to be a free agent. His status will undoubtedly spark a bidding war for the top infield prospect. The Red Sox, Yankees and Braves are said to be in the mix.

Sources say Moncada's asking price could be as much as \$40 million. Said to have lightning speed and as a plus offensive threat, scouts project the phenom at either second or third

base in the majors. At 19-years old, he could be a key infielder for years to come for the team that lands him.

Moncada still has some "official business" to take care of. As a Cuban defector, he needs an unblocking license from the Office of Foreign Assets Control, which is a division of the U.S. Treasury. Then the MLB can declare him to be a free agent.

If all goes well for Moncada, let the bidding games begin. Only 16 days before pitchers and catchers report to Fort Myers.



Patriots Win Fourth Super Bowl

The three keys to the Pats win

Tom Brady:

Super Bowl MVP, Patriots Quarterback Tom Brady threw for 328 yards, 37 completions, four touch downs and two interceptions. Seahawks Quarterback Russell Wilson threw for 247 yards, twelve completions, two touchdowns and one interception.

While Seattle out-ran the Patriots (Marshawn Lynch alone carried the ball 24 times for 102 yards), Brady was masterful at taking advantage of opportunities and controlling the clock.

Defense:

Patriots gave up more total yards than the Seahawks, but the Patriots gave up fewer points (naturally). The

Patriots offense does deserves some credit for keeping the Seahawks defense on the field so long. But the play of the game, the goal line interception with under a minute to go by Patriot defensive back Malcolm Butler, was the difference. It will likely go down as one of the greatest plays in Super Bowl history for its dramatic impact to the end of a game.

Time of Possession:

Patriots had the ball for 33:46.

Seattle had the ball for 26:14.

This was a huge factor. Seattle's defense, tops in the NFL, was on the field a long time. They did a great job with the Patriots running game. But Tom Brady is the best quarterback in NFL history for a reason.

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