
State Representative Nick Collins recently testified at the Massachusetts State House in support of a bill which would create new and harsher penalties for criminal activities leading to deaths from opioid overdoses. The bill was filed by Rep. Collins earlier this year.

Currently, district attorneys are unable to bring charges against drug profiteers whose activities lead to the death of drug users from overdoses. The proposed legislation seeks to remedy that problem by creating new criminal charges that district attorneys

CONTINUED ON page 10
Editorial

State of Hate

What is it about legislators that they fail to deal with the poverty throughout our country and the resulting crime that follows? Apparently it is complete disdain for Americans, native born or legalized. Could it even be hate?

The outrage in San Francisco was not unexpected, since that occurred in broad daylight at a public venue and impossible for the media to hide.

Here in Massachusetts we had our own outrage with the murder of Matthew Denice, run down, dragged and backed over by a drunken, illegal, who claims his ignorance of American liquor and language is not his fault.

Our local media may have been able to downplay that incident but, the in-your-face cynicism toward the mass citizenry by even suggesting a “sanctuary state” designation in light of San Francisco is disgusting even by our legislature’s questionable standards.

Politicians may scoff at Federal laws and rules and adopt some phony, “come and get me” tough guy image, but when the wrong person is harmed - and it will happen - a midnight visit by ISIS might be preferable to the one from an anguished and angry parent.

“Americans chose a limited government that exists to protect our rights, not grant them” Senator Marco Rubio

This Week’s Poll

Do you support the proposal to designate Massachusetts as a ‘Sanctuary State’?

Yes? or No?

Vote online at SouthBostonToday.com

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The Lion and the Babies

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY
John Ciccone

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

Look at all the outrage over a dead lion, but where is all the outrage over the Planned Parenthood dead babies”. This is a quote by US Senator Marco Rubio (R Florida) that he tweeted out in response to all the news coverage and passion shown over the killing of Cecil the Lion. Is the senator right in his anger? Allow me to put both issues into perspective as I see it. First, the lion: It’s often said by animal experts that the African Lion is the most ferocious predator on the planet. So mean and violent that it makes a Great White Shark look like a playful dolphin by comparison. But, be that as it may, lions are wild animals and what they do comes natural. They are also magnificent big cats and protectors of their families/prides. Personally, though it might tick some of my readers off, something I can live with, I’m pro-hunting. Many of my friends are hunters and I too look forward to hunting. Many of these innocent and helpless babies in a brutal fashion and many of these same people who are screaming about the dead lion don’t even bat an eye. In fact, they approve. But the lion becomes a ‘cause celebre’ around the nation. The Media Research Bureau has tallied that there has been 15 times more coverage of the lion than there has been about the Planned Parenthood story. It was difficult to turn on any TV channel save for the Home Shopping Networks without seeing Cecil’s face. Even New York’s Empire State Building was lit up with the lion’s image. Did it light up in memory of the deceased babies? How about in tribute to our 5 murdered service members in the Chattanooga attack? Of course not. It’s just not trendy enough. But many in the press race to Planned Parenthood’s defense even after their leadership was caught on camera wickedly bragging about their actions while callously sipping expensive wine and eating her fine food. Can it get anymore ghoulish?

Next up, the proposed Boston Drink Tax. As many know, there is a push on to add a 2% tax on all alcohol bought and consumed in the City of Boston. The money, it is said will go to paying for alcohol and drug abuse programs. These programs are beneficial to be sure. But the citizens of Boston are ‘taxed enough already’. Enough new taxes. How about this? Slash a couple of percentage points from the real-estate taxes that are causing so many Bostonians to flee this city and even worse, lose the homes they’ve had in their families for generations. Then use a percentage of the remaining real estate tax revenue to pay for the substance abuse programs. This will accomplish two goals. It will give a boost to the programs and give a bit of relief to Boston’s tax payers and home owners AND renters who have had enough of being treated like ATM machines for decades. And, why not redirect some of the funding that goes to people residing in

CONTINUED ON page 10
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.

Keeping the Widett Circle movement alive

As the dust nearly settles from the Olympic bid meltdow, the hope of many is the effort won’t be in vain. The Boston Globe is holding a candle for the transformation of the formerly anonymous Widett Circle, where a temporary Olympic Stadium was to be built, only to give way to a center spread in last weekend’s Sunday Globe. The question now, however, is whether a neighborhood on stilts captures the imagination of developers. Love’s idea of keeping some of its industrial character sounds the most appealing, but it also may be the least commercially viable option.

A revenue bonanza around the bend?

The failed Olympic bid succeeded in whetting the public’s appetite to actually do something about the Commonwealth’s state of disrepair. It is now accepted as a fact that public transportation here is an embarrassment compared to most cities in Boston’s peer group -- certainly New York, Washington and San Francisco. And many are convinced it is wishful thinking at best to believe the T and our already clogged highways will be improved to meet the needs of our growing economy without a significant investment. The T may run much better next year, but if we’re looking at basically the same infrastructure in 15 years, we’re in trouble.

If we’re going to think big about transportation, there has to be money behind it. If the math is correct, there’s a good chance an additional $2 billion or so will be coming in from new sources in the next few years. First casino revenue is estimated at about $400 million annually when (and if) all the sites are operating. If Congress enables an Internet sales tax, Massachusetts is looking at $150 million to $200 million per year. Then there’s the new movement to create a millionaire surtax, putting the rate at 9 percent or so for income over $1 million. The additional revenue from the millionaire surtax could easily approach $1.4 billion. That adds up to about $2 billion from poor people, rich people, and shoppers. Even this amount of new money could easily get consumed by the gnawing needs in the state budget, especially, health care and unfunded liabilities. But the question is whether political forces will continue to gather to make transportation a priority. The seeds are being sown for the money to fund ambitious planning to materialize.

Galvin delivers ballot petition

Secretary of State William Galvin filed a ballot petition to reform the state’s public records laws, a move he had said he would make if the Legislature had not passed reform before the deadline to submit ballot wording to the Attorney General. Like the bill that is being considered on Beacon Hill, Galvin’s measure has a provision that would allow those who sue for records to recovery legal costs if they prevail in court. Galvin told the Globe’s Todd Wallack “the best solution would be if the Legislature acts promptly.”

Verizon workers stay on the job without contract

After their contract expired Saturday night, Verizon union workers have opted to stay on the job as negotiations continue. Some 5,000 Massachusetts workers will be affected by the outcome. A union official told Jack Encarnacao of the Herald that management’s latest offer would increase health care costs “by thousands of dollars per person.” In all, the Verizon unions represent 38,000 workers.

Warren carrying on Kennedy’s legacy with updated No Child Left Behind

Little has been written on Sen. Elizabeth Warren’s views on the federal government’s role in education, a topic CommonWealth’s Michael Jonas explores as the No Child Left Behind is pilloried from the left and right. Some federal standards need to be left in place, Warren maintains, as the law is updated. Jonas writes: “The danger, say Warren and others fighting the current versions of the bill, is that the pendulum is swinging so far the other way that the federal government may end up walking away from any commitment to those students who have historically not been well-served by schools that are left entirely under local control.”
The NFL’s AND the Patriot’s Double Standard Problem

If the NFL wants to use cinderblocks Tom Brady will still throw them better and the Patriots will still win.

If Bob Kraft truly believes his own words that he was wrong in his action back in May then he must re-instate the two ball boys, which is actually not an accurate term for two professional equipment men on a professional football team. Nevertheless Mr. Kraft can’t have it both ways. If the science, facts and motive of the NFL are skewed and biased against the Patriots and Tom Brady, then logic dictates that these men, too, can’t be judged guilty of any wrong doing. Again, by his own words, time after time, he has proclaimed his absolute confidence in the integrity of Tom Brady. We all agree. The last statement he gave was that neither he nor any team personnel altered the footballs in any way. Then why are they not working? Training camp has begun. Particularly when it was the Patriots who once had Brett Favre as a quarterback. The Jets also had cheerleaders, some of whom filed a sexual harassment charge with the League. The League conducted an investigation and demanded Favre turn over his phone in order to investigate an allegation he transmitted sexually explicit messages and images. Favre refused and was fined 50 thousand dollars. Case closed.

Prior to this whole fiasco the League already had a penalty on the books for tampering with the football, a twenty five dollar fine. So contrary to Goodell claiming he was taking “steps to protect the integrity” of the game, those steps had already been taken. It’s called the “rule” book. A book, designed to protect fair play, had already determined that “tampering with the Football” was so minor it could be addressed with a fine. Any discrepancy existing with the balls, in the first place, is doubtful.

Just one example - two different pressure gauges were used to test the balls at half time of the game in question. The two gauges gave two sets of different readings. One gauge showed legal pressure and the referee believed that was the gauge he used. The other gauge showed balls below legal pressure. The League then decided the referee’s memory was “faulty” and the gauge testing low pressure was, in fact, the gauge that was used.

With or without the Patriots, Goodell has been a disaster. The Ray Rice affair was mishandled from the beginning after initially trying to cover it up. Possibly because Goodell is close with the Baltimore Raven’s Rice team, a Baltimore team we have beaten in some Siamese-twin close games. A team still whining about the losses. Then the team Baltimore City rejected, the Colts, is another team constantly whining after we beat them.

These are the whiners Goodell listened to when this witch hunt started. Do yourself, the team, and New England a favor. Whatever Goodell says, stand up and just do the opposite. Take care till next week.

Note: talk back to Brian by email at bmahoney@southbostontoday.com
‘Lion King’ animator paints beautiful tribute to Cecil the Lion

By Maeve McDermott

The sad story of Cecil the Lion has reverberated around the world, as fans mourn the death of one of Africa’s best-known lions. The Oscar-nominated animator Aaron Blaise knows a thing or two about lions—he worked on the Disney classic The Lion King—and honored Cecil with a beautiful portrait of his face in the clouds, accompanied by a timelapse of the image’s creation. Naturally, it’s accompanied by a Mustafa quote: “Look at the stars. The great kings from the past look down upon us from those stars.”

Blaise wrote on his website that he hopes the Cecil tribute helps further raise awareness of the hunting and poaching of African animals. “As you may be able to tell I am a huge animal lover and it drives me crazy when I see these beautiful creatures destroyed for no good reason,” he wrote. “In fact, I’ve decided to get personally involved and hopefully our efforts can help educate people and prevent these horrible things from happening in the future. It’s not much, but hopefully it will make people think.”

Medical Marijuana Dispensary Approved On Milk Street Location

Patriot Care’s application to open a medical marijuana facility on Milk Street in Boston passed unanimously at a meeting of the Zoning Board of Appeals, despite opposition from some residents and members of the Boston City Council according to the Boston Herald’s Chris Villani. The provisional use permit allows the facility to operate under a few conditions. Patriot Care has agreed only to use the dispensary for medical marijuana, has normalized operational hours from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., and will have little signage, instead donating the front of the space on 21 Milk St. to be used by an unrelated business. They will also pay for a police detail for the site, and said they would work with Boston Police Commissioner William B. Evans to determine how much of a police presence is required.

“We believe this package is more robust than anything to come before Massachusetts and maybe nationwide,” said Michael Ross, a former city council president hired to represent the medical marijuana chain. “This certainly passes the standard of conditional use, but we believe it goes well beyond.”

A handful of people in the standing-room only crowd applauded the board’s decision. Some of the supporters were decked out in clothing with pro-medicinal marijuana graphics and slogans. District 6 City Councilor Matt O’Malley offered support for the Downtown Crossing location, which will take over a vacant bank building. “I don’t usually get involved in zoning outside of my district,” he said, “but this is about offering a service for those who need it and I think this is model for what should be done in the city of Boston.”

Representatives for other city councilors, including Josh Zakim, Ayanna Pressley, Tito Jackson, and Michelle Wu, echoed their support. Others spoke in opposition to the location, citing concerns about traffic flow to the area, a lack of parking, and what they called an opposition from the majority of residents in the area. Among them, City Council President Bill Linehan who represents the district in which the dispensary will be located, and voiced his opposition to the site through a representative. Fellow councilors Stephen Murphy and Michael Flaherty joined in opposition with a spokesman for the latter saying Milk Street “is not the best location” for the dispensary.

Mayor Martin J. Walsh, who has called marijuana a “gateway drug” released a statement saying “… he will uphold the law that was passed by Massachusetts voters, and he is pleased that over the past few months, Patriot Care has worked closely with the Administration to address many of the neighborhood concerns.”

TECHCOMPUTERS, S. Boston
Administrative Assistant P/T
2-3 yrs admin experience. Excellent Customer service, interpersonal Organizational & time management skills. Proficient in MS Office
Email resume to:
HR@techcomputersinc.com
Break-ins continue: This time on E. Fifth Street

As the mid-summer weather makes this a pleasant time for many, burglars, it seems, are active in certain areas of South Boston as many neighbors are away on vacation. Last weekend, at least one home was hit on the 5 and 6 hundred block of East Fifth Street. Neighbors report that a large white male was seen lurking in several back yards and one family returned home from a weekend away to find that their home was burglarized. They reported that jewelry and old coins were taken but electronic equipment was left untouched and there was minimal damage to the inside of the dwelling.

It’s believed that the intruder entered through a back yard locked window which was apparently ‘jimmied’ from the outside to gain entrance. Earlier that day there were statements from neighbors that a man fitting that same description was seen lurking in yards in the same vicinity.

Residents are advised to be extra vigilant when at home. It is also advisable to take extra home security precautions when planning to be away for at least one or more days and nights. Alarms are always a good idea, as well as more secure and sturdy locks on doors and windows. Security cameras on your property are also suggested. It’s a good idea to inform trusted neighbors nearby that you will be away and ask them to keep a close watch on your home. You may offer to reciprocate for them when they are away.

Burglars are well aware that August is peak vacation time and homes are unoccupied and unguarded, believing this to be the perfect time to commit their crimes with the least chance of getting caught.

Again, police ask that you report any and all suspicious activities or people in your area by calling 911. A sure sign that there could be a crime about to be committed is if you see unfamiliar people in the back yards of homes on your block. If you see strange cars with occupants watching houses in your area and you do not want to approach them, call 911 and report your suspicions just to be safe. The police will respond and check it out. It would also help to take down the license plate numbers of these vehicles just in case there is a break-in. This could help give police leads in an investigation.

MOVING TRUCK PERMITS NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE

Mayor Martin J. Walsh announced a new online application simplifying the process for receiving one-day moving truck permits. This tool is being released in time for the City’s busiest moving day, September 1. Residents will also be able to apply for moving truck permits at the City Hall To Go truck where they can pick up their signs in person.

“I am committed to making accessing city services easier for Boston residents and students,” said Mayor Walsh. “We are excited to offer our residents the ability to apply for moving truck permits from anywhere and hopefully relieve some of the stress that moving brings.”

This year alone, Mayor Walsh has made eight new permits available online, advancing his commitment to make permitting in Boston easy, transparent and predictable. The new online moving van permit application lets residents avoid visiting two separate offices in City Hall, which are frequently overwhelmed with applicants around the city’s busiest move-in times.

Mayor Walsh has made improving digital service delivery a top priority for his Administration. Over the coming months, the City will be releasing an entirely revised online permitting experience for the city, which will allow residents and business owners to learn about, and apply for, permits across eight different departments.

Online applicants will need to apply two weeks in advance of their move-in date in order to ensure timely delivery of their signs. To apply online, and learn more about the eligibility criteria for online applications visit: boston.gov/movingtrucks.

For information on City Hall To Go and its schedule, please visit: http://www.cityofboston.gov/cityhalltogo/.
The Society of Arts and Crafts Awarded Pier 4 Cultural Space

The Boston Redevelopment Authority (BRA) and Colorado-based real estate investment trust firm UDR have chosen The Society of Arts and Crafts as the future tenant for the nearly-complete cultural space at 100 Pier 4. The 21-story apartment building on the South Boston Waterfront includes two levels of interior space that will become the new base of operations for the nonprofit. The 118-year-old Boston institution will relocate after being headquartered for 40 years on Newbury Street, a move expected to enhance the organization’s ability to deliver creative programming to the public.

In April, UDR and the BRA released a Request for Interest to solicit programming ideas and a potential operator for the Pier 4 space. Architects at Sasaki Associates designed the winning proposal for the Society of Arts and Crafts’ new home, which will include eye-catching second floor window displays and a lively public plaza with artwork. The 20,000 square feet of civic and cultural space at Pier 4 is part of a larger plan to activate 127,000 square feet of dedicated public space along the waterfront, as envisioned by the municipal harbor planning process that the BRA has led with the community.

“The Society of Arts and Crafts is a homegrown Boston institution that has promoted local art and artists for over a century,” said Mayor Martin J. Walsh. “This new location will allow this incredible gallery to grow in a modern, energized environment that will better showcase local talent, and draw even more activity to the waterfront.”

“The Society of Arts and Crafts has a proud past and visionary future,” said SAC Executive Director Fabio J. Fernández. “We are thrilled to move to the Seaport District, a neighborhood that is as ambitious and forward-looking as we are.”

In this new location, The Society of Arts and Crafts will expand its reach and become a center for the craft and design community, connecting students, artists, collectors, and the public. A proposed artist-in-residency program will provide makers with a space to create their work in culture-rich Boston. Planned retail and exhibition galleries will show larger and more experimental work. Finally, the outdoor civic plaza will allow for collaborative and educational programming, and exhibitions can expand into this space to include public sculpture.

With a gallery that is always free and open to the public, The Society of Arts and Crafts will make craft accessible to all people visiting the waterfront, providing locals and tourists alike with opportunities to engage with artists, makers, and their ideas. The nonprofit’s first exhibition in the new location will be titled “Radius,” highlighting the talented makers located within a 5-mile radius of 100 Pier 4 who work in clay, metal, wood, glass, and fiber. The inaugural exhibition will be a clear signal of The Society of Arts and Crafts’ intent to collaborate with neighborhood artists and support Boston’s creative economy.

“We’re very eager to see The Society of Arts and Crafts engage with the community and expand its offerings,” said BRA Director Brian Golden. “This historic institution will bring a unique perspective to the neighborhood, building on its past successes in a fresh and purposeful, community-driven way.”
Affordable Homeownership Opportunity
Dahlgren Hall, LLC
309 “E” Street
South Boston, MA 02127

2 Affordable Units Available

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Maximum Income per Household Size

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Applications can be picked up in person or by e-mail from South Boston Neighborhood Development Corporation 365 West Broadway, South Boston, MA 02127

E-mail: michelle.zenga@sbnec.org (Applications cannot be sent prior August 15, 2015)
Please note the application distribution period is only for five (5) consecutive days starting on August 15, 2015 and ending on August 20, 2015.

Households must include their full name and complete mailing address to receive an application.

*Saturday– August 15, 2015 – 10:00 am – 2:00pm at 309 “E” Street – Note – this day only*
Monday – August 17, 2015 – 10:00am – 6:00pm
Tuesday – August 18, 2015 – 10:00am – 6:00pm
Wednesday – August 19, 2015 – 10:00am – 6:00pm
Thursday – August 20, 2015 – 10:00am – 7:00pm

Deadline for completed applications to:
South Boston NDC - 365 West Broadway - South Boston, MA 02127
In Person by 6:00pm, August 27, 2015, or mailed and postmarked by that day.

Selection by lottery.
Asset, Use & Resale Restrictions apply. Minimum income limits apply.
Preference for Boston Residents.
Preference for Households with at least one person per bedroom.
Preference for First-Time Homebuyers.
For reasonable accommodations or more information call Michelle Zenga, South Boston NDC 617-464-2483

22 BOSTON WHARF ROAD
TUESDAY, AUGUST 11
6:30 PM - 8:00 PM
22 BOSTON WHARF RD
7th Floor - Offices of TRO
Boston, MA 02210

PROJECT PROPOSER:
Berkeley Investments, Inc.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:
Berkeley Investments, Inc. (the “Proponent”) is proposing a two-story vertical expansion of the existing building located at 22 Boston Wharf Road in the South Boston Waterfront. Each new story will contain approximately 28,000 square feet of office space. The Proponent is also seeking to convert approximately 3,000 square feet of ground floor space into retail.

MAIL TO:
RAUL DUVERGE
Boston Redevelopment Authority
One City Hall Square, 9th Floor
Boston, MA 02201

PHONE:
617.918.4492

EMAIL:
Raul.Duverge@Boston.gov

CLOSE OF COMMENT PERIOD:
Friday, August 21, 2015

BOSTON REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
PUBLIC MEETING
DURANTE NAMED CEO OF NOTRE DAME EDUCATION CENTER

Mary Rose Durante, Esq., has been named executive director and chief executive officer of Notre Dame Education Center in South Boston, a premier adult basic education center since 1992. The appointment was effective June 29. She replaces Sister Joyce Khoury, SND, Ed.D., who retired in June. Ms. Durante had been the Center’s finance director since 2012.

“I’m looking forward to the opportunity to lead the Notre Dame Education Center,” said Ms. Durante. “We have a dedicated staff and motivated students. The Sisters of Notre Dame, who founded the Center, have always been leaders in education, particularly adult education. It’s an honor to carry that vision forward.”

Ms. Durante was general counsel and special assistant to Richard J. Egan, former U.S. Ambassador to Ireland. As a Foreign Service officer, she acted as liaison between Ambassador Egan and the Government of Ireland. She served as a strategic advisor to him and his senior team and was the chief point of contact for the White House and the Secret Service.

Previously Ms. Durante worked for EMC Corp. in Hopkinton, Mass., where she directed the ambassadorial process, acting as intermediary for the White House, the State Department, and the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. A well-regarded C-level strategist, she was a key player in the spin-off of Interface Systems Group of Milford, Mass., from Interface Electronics Corp. of Franklin, Mass.

Ms. Durante is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Boston College and Boston College Law School. She has been admitted to practice before the Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts. In 2002 she received the Franklin Award from the U.S. Department of State in recognition of her outstanding work on the Fourth of July celebration at the Ambassador’s Residence in Dublin.

Ms. Durante was born in Boston and raised in Hingham. A Falmouth Academy graduate, she currently divides her time between Weymouth and Hopedale.

The Notre Dame Education Center is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization offering adult basic education and support services to students and clients from all over the Boston area. The Center’s wide range of programs includes high school diploma and HiSET test preparation programs, courses in ESOL, citizenship classes, job and workforce training, and literacy courses. Since its founding in 1992, the Notre Dame Education Center has served more than 9,000 students from more than 30 countries worldwide.

South Boston High School Class of 1964/1965 Reunion

Saturday, September 26th, 2015, 7pm-11:30pm
Florian Hall, Dorchester, MA

For more information, contact the following members of the reunion committee

1964: Frances King: Frances King@comcast.net. 617-752-4536
1965: Eileen Shannon: eshan@aol.com. 727-712-8325
Charlene O’Donnell: countrybiz@aol.com. 781-749-4025
Kate McDonogh: innisfree22@hotmail.com. 781-848-7821

JOHN CICCONE CONTINUED FROM page 3

... our city illegally? We all know they are here and that they are benefiting from the labor of taxpaying citizens. Yes, I know, this is a topic that is never supposed to be mentioned. That’s why it’s so nice to be part of a newspaper that is not hindered or restricted by the rules of Political Correctness. It’s only 2% we’re told. 2% here, 5% there and on it goes every time an advocacy group seeks funding for their often well-meaning cause.

Moving now to a story that brings a grin to the faces and joy to the hearts of many. Last week, a father in Louisville, Kentucky, became angered at a drone that kept hovering over his young daughter who was sunbathing in the family yard. The drone would not stop hovering; and like most drones, there is often at least one camera attached. He went into his house, got his shotgun and shot the drone down. End of drone. Sun bathing resumed. The lesson offered by this story: If you don’t want to lose your $1,800 drone, be more selective of where you fly it and more respectful of the privacy of others.

And finally a cautionary reminder to our local seniors. There is a telephone scam being reported around town. Reports of people calling local senior citizens claiming to be a grandson and seeking money to help pay for an urgent bill for an injured friend are coming in. It is said that the youngish male voice on the phone is so convincing, that people are actually tempted to send them cash. Be careful and at all times, be 100% sure of who you are speaking with on the phone. These scam artists are apparently very clever at what they do.

HARSH DRUG PENALTIES CONTINUED FROM page 1

... can bring against individuals who manufacture, sell, distribute, or dispense methamphetamine, lysergic acid, diethylamide phenylcyclidine (PCP) or any other controlled drug substance when their drug distribution results in the death of an individual by the injection, inhalation or ingestion of the controlled substance. In those circumstances, the distributor can be held strictly liable for the individual’s death.

“There is no one answer to solving the problem of drugs and addiction or the loss, suffering and violence inherent in them,” said Suffolk County District Attorney Daniel F. Conley. “We know that addressing this scourge requires prevention, education and enforcement and the coordinated approach of health care providers, educators, law enforcement and the entire community. Representative Collins’ bill, H.1214, smartly recognizes that drug addiction and fatal overdoses don’t just happen. There are people who cause it, feed it and profit from it and they should bear responsibility for the consequences, especially when it results in the loss of life.”

“Unfortunately, deaths from drug overdoses have increased exponentially in Massachusetts in recent years,” said Rep. Collins. “This bill will further aid our district attorneys and law enforcement agencies in this important public safety matter by making those profiteers who are responsible for drug and opioid distribution accountable for the deaths caused by their distribution.”

The bill is now being considered by the Joint Committee on Judiciary.

Be careful and at all times, be 100% sure of who you are speaking with on the phone. These scam artists are apparently very clever at what they do.
2015 FREE Massparks Hikes & Happenings
DCR South Boston Parks

**Thursday, August 20  11 am – 2 pm**
**DCR Castle Island Kids Exploration Station**
Meet at the DCR Castle Island playground located at Castle Island, at the end of William J. Day Boulevard in South Boston
Join us at the Castle Island playground for a FREE Summer Kids Exploration Station recommended for kids 6-10 years of age. Explore the plants and critters of Castle Island through arts and crafts, games and hands-on activities at this on-going exploration station.

**Saturday, August 22  9:15-10am walk; 10-11am yoga**
**Yoga on the Beach: Marine Park**
Meet at the Castle Island playground located at Castle Island, at the end of William J. Day Boulevard in South Boston.
Join us on a scenic stroll along the waterfront between Marine Park and Carson Beach. We'll walk an easy 3 mile round trip along this seaside path with spectacular views along the way. Ages 10 and up.

**Thursday Evening through September 3  7:00 pm - dusk**
**Fort Independence Twilight Skyline Viewing, Castle Island, South Boston**
Enjoy a scenic sunset over the Boston Skyline from atop Fort Independence every Thursday evening from June through August (except July 4), hosted by volunteers from the Castle Island Association. Visitors for Twilight Skyline Viewing may stroll around the upper level of the Fort along Fronts 4, 5 and 1 and Shirley & Winthrop Bastions to enjoy the wonderful view and cooling coastal breezes.

**Thursday, August 27  Evening 7:30 - 9:30 pm**
**Shakespeare's Taming of the Shrew presented by the Brown Box Theatre**
Meet at Fort Independence at 2080 William J. Day Boulevard in South Boston.
Deception and desire abound in Shakespeare's classic comedy, The Taming of the Shrew. Christopher Sly, a tinker tricked into believing himself a nobleman, is treated to a play wherein an ornery and willful woman is "tamed" and men will stop at nothing to claim their love.

**Things to know before you go**
- All programs are free
- An adult must accompany children
- Wear sturdy footwear
- Carry drinking water on all programs
- Dress in light layers and wear sunscreen
- Insect repellent recommended at dusk
- If weather conditions are questionable, call the reservation headquarters on the day of the program at 617-333-7404, extension 104.
- Reasonable accommodations available. For questions regarding accessibility, please email Maggi.Brown@state.ma.us
- For DCR Park site directions, visit http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dcr/massparks/
Almost 1000 runners joined the L Street Running Club on July 16 to run the 28th annual Jim Kane Sugar Bowl 5k Road Race. This year’s race was dedicated to James “Jocko” Charris, one of the LSRC’s founders. Groups from Back on My Feet and Soul Train were among those running. Brad Mish, from Dorchester, won in a blistering 15 minutes 15 seconds. Siobhan Flaherty from Braintree was the first woman, finishing in 18 minutes 19 seconds. Lean Yoffe and Chris Ahearn won the wheelchair division. Congratulations to all participants!

All proceeds from the race go to local charities including the Boys & Girls Club of South Boston, Dorchester and Charlestown, The Curley Community Center, The South Boston Collaborative, Children’s Hospital, Father Bill’s Homeless Shelter, and St Francis’ Homeless shelter. Proceeds also allow LSRC to provide funding for Cushing Manor’s Christmas Party, Christmas in the City, and 50 Christmas Baskets, which the club members distribute to needy families in the local area. In addition, we use the race proceeds to provide two Student Grants for high school seniors heading to college.

The L Street Running Club thanks all the runners who came out and all the spectators and volunteers who cheered them on. LSRC would also like to thank the race sponsors: the Plymouth Rock Foundation, Massachusetts Convention Center Authority, Land Design Associates, ADI Print Solutions, and Clear Channel. The race included an expo, including A Healthy Balance, American Cancer Society, Back on my Feet, Big Sister, Boston Sports and Social Club, Core Power Protein Shakes, Ditech, DrinkMaple, EnergyBits, Health Warrior, Level Renner, Massage Works, Mix 104.1, Naked Juice, Neuro, New England Revolution, Perfect Fuel, Plymouth Rock, Radiant Yoga, Reebock CrossFit Back Bay, Soul Cycle, Star Market, Studio U, Whole Foods, The Vemma Team, the Z Spot, Urban Adventures, and Vitamin Water. 4C Foods, Bibs2Bags, Bic, BJ’s Wholesale, Boston Children’s Hospital, Larabar, Marathon Sports, Natalie’s Orchard Island Juice Company, New England Runner, Ocean Spray, Polar Beverages, and Carolina Rice also contributed to runners’ swag bags. We also had a raffle that included prizes from many of the above-mentioned companies, along with Honest Tea, Level Renner, McCrea’s Candies, Project Repat, the Red Parrot, and Vibram. L Street thanks all of these organizations for their donations and their participation at the race.

We hope to see everyone next July at the next Jim Kane! Also, runners (of all paces and distances!) are welcome to join us at our regular runs Tuesday and Thursday evenings and Sunday mornings, out of the Curley Community Center. See www.lstreet.org for details.

Bob Pugsley
Theresa Cidlevich
Jim Kane Race Director
LSRC President

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For more information call the WBZ Free Flicks Hotline at (617) 787-7200 or visit www.cbsboston.com/flicks. All events subject to weather conditions. Please call park number above for update.
Water Quality Is A Key Recreational Public Safety Factor

Midway through the 2015 beach season, Save the Harbor/Save the Bay released a study of water quality on the Metropolitan Beaches from Nahant to Nantasket, including Lynn, Nahant, Revere, Winthrop, East Boston, South Boston, Dorchester, Quincy and Hull covering the period from Memorial Day weekend through July 18th. The metric we examined is overall beach safety, the percentage of days that each site is below the threshold Enterococcus bacterial count of 104 CFU/100ml.

Here are the results for the 1st half of 2015 compared with results for all of 2014.com/public_21/beaches.cfm

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Beach</th>
<th>2014 Score</th>
<th>2015 Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>King’s Beach in Lynn and Swampscott</td>
<td>88%</td>
<td>74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nahant Beach</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revere Beach</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winthrop Beach</td>
<td>94%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Constitution Beach in East Boston</td>
<td>96%</td>
<td>83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pleasure Bay in South Boston</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M Street Beach in South Boston</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carson Beach in South Boston</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>95%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City Point Beach in South Boston</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Savin Hill Beach in Dorchester</td>
<td>88%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malibu Beach in Dorchester</td>
<td>93%</td>
<td>87%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tenean Beach in Dorchester</td>
<td>95%</td>
<td>69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wollaston Beach in Quincy</td>
<td>94%</td>
<td>90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nantasket Beach in Hull</td>
<td>98%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALL BEACHES</td>
<td>96%</td>
<td>93%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Most of the Metropolitan Region’s public beaches - including Nahant Beach, Revere Beach, Winthrop Beach, Nantasket Beach, Pleasure Bay, M Street Beach, City Point Beach and Savin Hill Beach - achieved perfect scores of 100%. Carson Beach in South Boston scored 95%, failing just one test on June 12. Wollaston Beach in Quincy scored 90%. Malibu Beach in Dorchester scored 87%, while Constitution Beach in East Boston scored 83%.

However, King’s Beach in Lynn and Swampscott scored just 75% and Tenean Beach in Dorchester scored just 69%), with more beach closings during the first half of this season (from May 22 to July 18) than in all of 2014.

According to Save the Harbor/Save the Bay’s Director of Strategy, Communications and Programs Bruce Berman, even small summer storms can cause pollution events that force officials to close a beach. “Though the total rainfall amount so far this season is similar to 2014, there were more frequent small storms during the study period, which has had a dramatic impact on water quality on some of our beaches this year.”

According to Berman, the results of this study underscore the need for Save the Harbor/Save the Bay and the Commonwealth to help local officials identify and address the water quality problems that prevent the public from using their beaches.

“When a beach is closed for swimming 25% of the time as King’s and Tenean have been this year, there are real problems which we have to address,” said Berman. “The big takeaway is that most of our beaches are doing great, but there is still more work to do – and we intend to do it.”

Sources:

By Lawrence C. Mackin

The Police Revolt of 2016

The Book that has people talking and is making waves from the Streets of Boston to the Halls of Congress.

Action packed intrigue – a page turner from start to finish

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Nothing’s changed — you believe the Patriots, or you don’t

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY

Dan Shaughnessy

I t might be the most polarizing New England sports story of all time. We are eight months in, $100 million worth of billable hours deep, and every new disclosure only emboldens each side of the Deflategate issue. It is the sports version of Red States vs. Blue States, Fox News vs. MSNBC. You either believe the Patriots cheated (a small infraction by any measure) and got caught. Or you believe the NFL is out to get the Patriots. There is no middle ground.

And so when the NFL Players Association unleashed another blizzard of documents Tuesday, partisans from each side enjoyed more “gotcha” moments.

Patriots fans think Roger Goodell and the league are on a mission to bring New England down. They think years of beatdowns and the innate brilliance of Bill Belichick and Tom Brady have spawned a nation of Patriots haters. And so the NFL set a trap for the Patriots. These folks will stop at nothing to diminish the great deeds of the NFL’s 21st-century dynasty. It’s sheer jealousy. But when the truth comes out, it will be Goodell’s head on a platter and Brady’s image will be restored. It will be total vindication for the Patriots.

Outside of New England, folks see headlines about the Patriots’ accepting loss of two draft picks and the largest fine in league history, a missing cellphone, unexplained texts, suspension of a couple of low-level employees, and a lot of lawyering-up. This leads them to conclude that the Patriots possibly dominate because they bend the rules a little. They cheated. Then they accused their accusers; a common strategy of guilty folks. Now they are trying to be set free on technicalities; improper police procedure.

The NFLPA released more than 4,000 pages of documents Tuesday, including the 457-page Brady appeal hearing transcript. This adds to a heaping pile of paper that already includes the Wells Report, the Wells Report In Context, Goodell’s 20-page firebomb in which he upheld Brady’s four-game suspension, and the endless trail of leaks and counter-leaks. The tonnage will eventually exceed complete works of the Warren Commission.

Sorry, I think the Patriots are guilty. I know that is not a popular opinion and I could very well be wrong, but from the jump they’ve behaved like a guilty party, and I’ve spent enough time around them to believe this is exactly the kind of microsystem they would design in order to get a small edge. And the league-hating Belichick and ever-angry Jonathan Kraft would never admit guilt. No matter how small the infraction. Better to deny all and see if the league can make it stick. On the other hand, I also believe the league has played dirty and gone out of its way to embarrass and punish New England for a petty crime.

Having disclosed my own bias, here’s what I’ve thus far gleaned from the latest “news.”

For the last week the pro-Patriot folk have insisted that Brady never said he “destroyed” his phone. His phone merely broke, they claimed. Goodell unfairly turned this into a “Breaking Bad” kind of destruction. So goes the pro-Patriots narrative, advanced by the surging forces of Kraft’s massive media cartel.

From the transcript we learn that in the middle of one of Brady’s under-oath answers (during his appeal hearing), he talked about routinely giving his phone to his assistant and said, “. . . make sure you get rid of it for me. And what I mean is, destroy the phone . . .”

There was some wigging on this one by Brady. He wouldn’t confirm the phone in question was “destroyed.” It was just normal practice. It kind of depended on . . . sort of . . . what your definition of “destroyed” is.

One side will run this as proof that Goodell was correct when he said the phone was destroyed. The Brady folk will say . . . actually . . . not quite. There’s still a scintilla of doubt.

Under oath, Brady denied instructing anyone to tamper with footballs. He answered a lot of questions about preparation of footballs, and acknowledged he was upset after the Jets game when the balls were overinflated. He said he knew who Jim McNally was, but did not known him by name.

A more fun nugget was the confirmation of suspicions that it was the Baltimore Ravens who got the ball rolling when they told the Colts to be on the lookout for deflated footballs in the AFC Championship game. This came after the Patriots beat Ravens coach John Harbaugh with trick formations (since outlawed) in the divisional-round playoff game, then mocked Harbaugh after the game. (Brady smirked and said, “Study the rulebook.”)

While Ted Wells acknowledged his investigation did not find definitive proof that the Patriots were cheating, the transcript had Wells stating that Brady and the Patriots were “conducting themselves in a fashion that suggests they are hiding something.”

Hogwash? Or . . . Exactly right? You’ve already made up your mind. Tuesday’s 4,000-plus pages won’t change that.
DANNY PICARD: So we're looking at an August 12 settlement hearing in New York City. Tom Brady will be there. Roger Goodell will be there. We're also seeing in these reports that the judge is encouraging both sides to continue discussions on some type of deal. Do you expect anything to be done before we reach the August 12 hearing, or are we definitely having this hearing on August 12?

MIKE GIARDI: At this point, the way it's all played out, I'd think it would continue to drag, because I feel like there's still some reluctance on both sides to come to a deal. Even though, as you mentioned, the judge really wants this to happen. But, both sides have been stubborn. They've both sort of dug their heels in, back themselves into a corner, whatever you want to go with. So, unless Brady is willing to acquiesce, I have a feeling it's going to drag out a little bit longer.

DP: Then we could have another hearing on August 19. If it does get to that point, which I think it will, the Patriots will be in West Virginia for joint practices with the New Orleans Saints. Brady, I assume, is going to be missing the walk-through for the team's first preseason game because of the August 12 hearing. If it gets to August 19, are you expecting Brady to also be at that hearing as well, given the fact that the rest of the team would be practicing in West Virginia?

MG: I would think so, just because I think it's a matter of, you want to be face to face. You're the primary guy in this thing. I don't know how you would avoid going to that. And this is where the whole distraction thing comes in. We've spent a lot of time on how the Patriots are masters at handling distractions, look at their past history. But this one is different. This one is different because it's your quarterback, and uncertainty now lingers into the season. Here we are in the preseason, and I thought Saturday was sort of a flat practice, despite being in full pads and despite having contact. And then Sunday, it sort of was the same thing. And then late in the practice, in a goal line drill, that's when I finally saw some emotion, some yapping back and forth. And Brady was in the center of that. And I thought to myself, 'He's usually that way from the beginning.' I hadn't seen any sort of emotion from him, up until that point on Sunday. They can say all they want that they've moved on, and it's Tom's business, and they're not worried about Tom because he will be focused. And look, his performance has been how it normally looks in training camp. He looks good, he looks really good. But there is that sort of element to it, guys are being asked questions about it. Now, if you're going to miss a joint practice session with the Saints — and Belichick loves these things, and in many ways thinks they are more important than the actual preseason game itself. So, for Brady to miss that, that would be a big deal.

DP: Non-Deflategate related, you've been down at Gillette Stadium for Patriots training camp, what is the one thing on this team, the biggest thing that has jumped out to you on the field?

MG: Malcolm Butler. I mean, look, we saw his competitiveness. We saw him flash talent last year all throughout training camp, where, even when he was giving up catches, he was in somebody's back pocket. And then you saw that at various points of the season, and certainly in the second half of the Super Bowl. You wondered how all that fame would affect him. But this kid is super focused. He looks so smooth. He's been one of the few guys, I thought, during the first week of practice, that has shown that emotion. He's been yapping at Julian Edelman quite a bit, and I think it's been a great battle. But he's just been, by far and away their best cornerback. Even talking to him now. Last year he was shy. And look, I know that you're a rookie and they don't want you to talk so you button down a little bit. But there is a confidence that's coming from him when he talks to us as well. And I think it all plays hand in hand. I think he sees what's there for him. He's put in the work necessary to get there. And thus far, I just love everything about what he's doing out there. When you lose Revis and Browner, and you let Arrington go, and Dennard is gone as well, there are so many questions. I don't know if he can be the alpha dog, but he's certainly gotten off to the kind of start that makes you believe there's an opportunity for him to be the alpha dog in the secondary.

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