



Is It Really Necessary?

The change. The controversy. The waste of time and energy. The nitpicking. The drama. The politics. Just when the major controversies that perennially have accompanied the Evacuation/Saint Patrick’s Day parade for decades had seemed to be resolved and the resumption of one of the iconic TRADITIONS of South Boston approached, another assault on the community found its way into the media – especially the social media. A poll taken by this publication stands today, with 2878 votes taken, shows 58% for the traditional parade route that includes Dorchester Heights, 25% for the Mayor’s route that excludes Dorchester

CONTINUED ON page 12

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Last Week’s Poll on Page 2

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EDITORIAL

“Hit Man”

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY -By Staff

Another Republican establishment mouth piece heard from. The choice of spokesperson illustrates the continuing Republican strategy of bringing a knife to a gunfight, except this time it's a butter knife. Mitt, the former governor of Massachusetts, couldn't beat Obama in Massachusetts in the election. He turned into Mr. Rogers in the last debate, when he wouldn't raise the Benghazi murders. Here he is telling Donald Trump, who received more Massachusetts

votes in a primary than Mitt did in the general election, “stop being so mean”.

When did Mitt think Trump was a fraud and lousy businessman? Was it when Trump was endorsing Mitt and Mitt lied to us in accepting the endorsement? Is Mitt's judgment so bad that Trump was bad back then, but Mitt just couldn't see it? Or is Mitt the best the establishment can come up with to try to save the old way of doing things?

Mitt the hit man. What will they think of next?



“I’m a big believer that eventually, everything comes back to you. You get back what you give out” - Nancy Reagan

Last Week's Poll

Last Week's Poll Results On Choose Your 2016 Parade Route

Traditional Route - Broadway to P Street to Dorchester Heights to Andrew Square – 1659 Votes = 58% of Vote

Mayor's Route - Broadway to Farragut Road Only – 710 Votes = 25% of Vote

Andrew Square to Dorchester Heights to Broadway to Farragut Road - 487 Votes = 17% of Vote

Andrew Square to Broadway to Farragut Road – 22 Votes

Vote online at SouthBostonToday.com



www.southbostontoday.com



PO Box 491 • South Boston, MA 02127

Publisher
John Ciccone

Editor In Chief
Brian R. Mahoney

Managing Editor
Brian P. Wallace

info@southbostontoday.com • ads@southbostontoday.com

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The Information Center



Nancy Reagan: A Good and Gracious First Lady will be missed

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY

John Ciccone

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

Former First Lady Nancy Reagan's passing and all the news reports and media profiles that accompanied the announcement brought back memories to millions of Americans about a different time and American attitude. Many of our readers wrote in with fond recollection of an era, as many say, when 'the adults were in charge' and pride in being an American was soaring. Said one reader: "It was nice to have a First Lady that truly loved our country." Mrs. Reagan certainly was a patriot.

Some of the words used to describe her were classy, brilliant, loyal, protective, highly intelligent, sweet and pleasant. She was never one to just sit back and be idle. During her time in the White House, she involved herself in many charitable causes to help those in need and as most know, she became very active in her campaign to help combat the scourge of drug abuse that was taking its toll on so many Americans of all ages, but especially the nation's young.

Though she was thorough and relentless in her activism, she never became overbearing and dictatorial in her methods. She never attempted to project the image that she was running the country and had the authority to tell citizens how to live, what to eat and what to believe. Unlike the current first lady, she didn't threaten schools or institutions with penalties, such as loss of funding if they didn't follow her orders.

There is a stark contrast on the

lifestyle of the Reagans versus the current administration. Mrs. Reagan was never one to run up the tax payer's tab to the tune of hundreds of millions of dollars for lavish luxury vacations. It just wasn't her style and certainly not President Reagan's way. Nancy wouldn't hear of it and never thought she was entitled to do so. In fact, she and the president's idea of a truly great vacation was to spend it on their modest ranch where her beloved husband 'Ronnie' would enjoy his time chopping wood and they would ride horses together.

Not all marriages were as beautiful as that of Ron and Nancy Reagan and that's unfortunate.

Theirs was truly special, almost of storybook fame. Both always stressed how lucky they were to have each other. Ronald Reagan will and already has gone down in history as one of America's greatest presidents. A strong and determined leader, who knew exactly where he wanted to take the country and never doubted that as good and as great as America was, it was capable of becoming even greater. He was always ready and willing to admit and even brag about the fact that so much of his success was due to his beloved wife Nancy.

Nancy Reagan was loyal and devoted to her husband to the very end. She stayed by his side constantly, no matter how badly his condition deteriorated in the last years of his life. It was part of who she was and there is no doubt that had it been Nancy who became the victim of Alzheimer's

disease rather than her husband, he would have been right there with her as she was with him because that's who he was as well.

The nation mourns the passing of Mrs. Reagan, this gracious and

good woman and one of America's finest First Ladies. But most Americans take comfort in the fact that finally Ron and Nancy Reagan are at peace and happy now and together once again.



It's that time of year again!!

Please Join Us

The South Boston Citizens' Association
"The Nation's Oldest Neighborhood Civic Organization"
Thomas McGrath - President

2016 Evacuation Day Events

Tommy and Eddie Butler Senior Salute

Where: St Monica/St Augustine
Lower Church Hall

When: Saturday, March 12, 2016 @ 11:30
Traditional Irish Corned Beef Dinner
Music by the Mike Reynolds Band

NO TICKETS REQUIRED

Sponsored by: Mayor Martin Walsh
City Councilor Michael Flaherty and Thomas Butler Jr, Chairmen
Mrs. Mary Walsh, Mrs. Peggy Flaherty, Mrs. Anne Lynch,
Mrs. Mary Collins, Helen and Marie Butler
Honorary Co-Chairpersons



Transportation provided by Yankee Bus Lines and City of Boston

TO THE EDITOR,

I think changing the route of the Evacuation/St. Patrick Day parade in South Boston this year by city officials, without much discussion with the folks who actually do all the heavy lifting of organizing and raising money to finance it, seems pretty disrespectful to the community.

This is the community's celebration and not something for politicians to take over. Last year's new parade route was created due to the heavy amount of snow that took over the city. This year there is no snow so the parade should have reverted but to the 2014 parade.

Years ago, the Allied Veterans Council rerouted the parade and reversed the parade flow. Today, the parade starts at Broadway station. Years ago, it started at Andrew Square. The route was changed by the community for public safety issues and rowdiness.

If the parade organizers want their parade to pass by Dorchester Heights to honor Evacuation Day and General George Washington, this is their right. The last thing we need is politicians taking all the fun out of what should be a fun day for all.

As someone who years worked on the Bunker Hill Day parade years ago when I lived in Charlestown, I would have been irate if the city wouldn't allow the parade to march around the Bunker Hill Monument. It is a given to connect the Bunker Hill parade with the Monument, just like how can South Boston have its parade and not pass by the site of the March 17, 1776 British evacuation of Boston?

Right now, I am a member of the 2016 East Boston Columbus Day Parade Committee. All of these parades belong to the respective communities and not to City Hall.

SINCERELY,

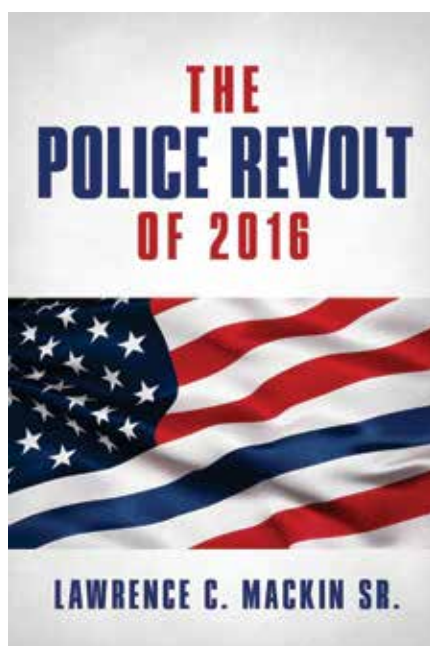
SAL GIARRATANI, SOUTH BOSTON

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

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The Police Revolt of 2016

By Lawrence C. Mackin



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(L-R) Director Peter Berg, Boston Police Commissioner William Evans and Boston's own Mark Wahlberg attend the 3rd annual Boston Police Department Foundation Gala to present THE HERO'S AWARD to BPD Officer John Moynihan on March 5, 2016 in Boston, Massachusetts. (Photo by Paul Marotta/Getty Images for CBS Films)



(L-R) Boston's own Mark Wahlberg, Boston Police Commissioner William Evans, Officer John Moynihan, Richard Parry, and Director Peter Berg attend the 3rd annual Boston Police Department Foundation Gala to present THE HERO'S AWARD to BPD Officer John Moynihan on March 5, 2016 in Boston, Massachusetts. (Photo by Paul Marotta/Getty Images for CBS Films)

Celebs Honor Police Officer John Moynihan

Mark Wahlberg and Peter Berg joined Boston Police Commissioner William Evans in honoring Officer John Moynihan, who survived being shot in the line of duty last year, with the Hero's Award at the Boston Police Foundation's Annual Gala at the Westin Waterfront Hotel in South Boston.

Wahlberg and Berg are frequent collaborators with such films as Lone Survivor, the upcoming

Deepwater Horizon and they are about to enter production on Patriots Day, a film that will focus on the heroics of many in the aftermath of the Boston Marathon bombings. While some of their heroic characters will be composites of several individuals, they are all based on real life events and include local citizens, first responders and law enforcement - many of whom were members of the Boston Police Department.



Reading Between The Lines

“The Heights” | The second of a 3-part series on the History of Evacuation Day

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY
Brian R. Mahoney

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

The British conducted their last and most destructive raid into South Boston (Dorchester Neck) on February 13, 1776, burning houses and property of the Blake, Wiswell and Foster families among others. This time however, the Americans responded with 300 mounted troops, causing the British to flee in their longboats. It was this raid which seems to have been the final straw. Washington had been advocating for a frontal assault across the ice from Cambridge and Roxbury. His military council disagreed and after his final council of war on February 26, Washington wrote, “I am preparing to take a position on Dorchester Heights to see if the enemy will come out to meet me.” He had reversed course and decided the Americans would fight from fortified positions and force the British to make the frontal assault.

On the morning of March 2, the Americans opened a three-day bombardment of the British in Boston. Under an advance protective screen of 800 infantry, 2,000 artillery men began their stealthy advance into South Boston. With muffled horses’ hooves and wagon wheels, this column began to snake its way up the “Turnpike” (Dorchester Street). Reaching the area of today’s “Telegraph Street”, nine cannons for three artillery batteries were muscled up to the peak of the “Twin Hill.”

The column continued up the “Turnpike” until it reached today’s Perkins Square area. There, a sloping hill began to rise, extending west toward the West Broadway parking lot and

north toward Dorchester Street and Emerson Street. This hill was known as “Leek’s Hill” and was designated for 7 cannons. Emerson Street, the second of South Boston’s original remaining streets, was called the “way to the Castle” and extended all the way to the east shore (Farragut Road). The column moved on this road to roughly “M” & East Fourth Street. At this point, six cannons were dragged up to “Bush Tree Hill” where their muzzles towered menacingly over the British warships at anchor. The last leg of the eastern march ended at Dorchester Point where a single three-gun battery was placed.

Back at “Leek’s Hill”, 700 men and 10 cannons skirted the western base and followed “Plaski Ave.” to West Third Street. This third and final road was known as the “Way to the Nook.” This road reached, straight as an arrow, to the 125 foot high “Nook Hill” located at today’s “B” & West Third Street. This hill was closest to British positions and warship anchorage so presented the most danger to the British. At the same time, its nearness made it the most exposed to British fire. It was decided by the Americans to fortify this hill last.

The cannon’s movement and the actual construction of their fortifications was a master stroke itself. Besides wrapping hooves and wheels in rags to muffle sounds, the Americans took a number of pre-emptive measures that led directly to victory.

The crossing into the “Neck” would have been under the eyes and guns of the British, particularly the “Green” artillery

position located on a rise at today’s Berkeley and Washington Streets intersection. The American created a “Blind” or a wall that would cover their movements by twisting and weaving hay. This was called “Screwed Straw”. Washington, for weeks, had his troops out in the “Wilderness” of Dorchester collecting thin tree branches and kindling. This was used to build “Fascine” or walls around cannon positions; usually by digging a trench and combing dirt and branches to make those

protective walls. The frozen ground plus the need for secrecy made digging impossible. The solution was called, “chandelier”. These were simply 10 by 4 foot skeletal wooden tubs. Light, mobile, easily moved into position around the cannons, filled with the “Fascines” and immediately turned into sturdy defensive walls.

During the next three days, the men labored to erect defenses while the non-stop bombardment of Boston provided cover their

CONTINUED ON page 6

BOSTON CITY COUNCILOR
BILL LINEHAN
invites you to his

9th Annual St. Patrick's Day Celebration

Wednesday, March 16th
6:00 - 9:00 pm

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Mayor Walsh Announces Middle Income Housing Innovation Options

Mayor Walsh Announces Middle Income Housing Innovation Options

During his annual speech before the Boston Municipal Research Bureau, Mayor Martin J. Walsh today will announce that the Mayor's Housing Innovation Lab is ready to launch new solutions for driving down the cost to build, buy, and own middle-income housing in the City of Boston. The Mayor's housing plan, *Housing a Changing City: Boston 2030*, identified the need for creation of 20,000 units of middle-income housing by 2030. In 2015, Boston made progress towards this goal, permitting 4,194 middle-income units.

With the help of community members and housing experts, the members of the Mayor's Housing Innovation Lab have spent six months identifying prospective solutions to meet the goals of the Mayor's housing plan and to keep Boston affordable for middle income households. Through a process including more than 100 one-on-one

meetings; 25 large-scale community engagements; and conversations about best practices with 15 cities, four pilot programs have emerged as holding the highest potential to enhance the creation and sustainability of middle income housing in Boston.

"Solving the middle income housing challenge is among the biggest challenges we face today," said Mayor Walsh. "The Housing Innovation Lab is bringing a new way of thinking about these issues to the City, and I'm appreciative of the time and energy that they have put into this work. Being able to test new approaches to this issue before solidifying them in policy is a unique approach, and one that we will continue to use to solve new challenges as well."

The pilot programs will launch over the next three months and wrap up within 12 months. The Housing Innovation Lab will partner with internal City departments, external advocates, academic institutions, and entrepreneurs to deploy these trial experiments, all of which tar-

get a specific policy, geographical area, or existing, yet inefficient, process. The new pilot programs will enable policy makers to measure the real-world success or failure of each potential solution over the coming year, in order to determine if the measure should be scaled or institutionalized city-wide. The pilots will include:

Density Bonus Policy: Reduce the cost to build by establishing new policy in Strategic Planning Areas to incentivize developers to build more affordable units by allowing additional density.

Compact Living: Reduce the cost to build by using City-owned land to launch a Housing Innovation Competition, focused on compact living, to inspire architects and developers to build homes that are well designed, efficient, and affordable.

Community Land Trusts: Reduce the cost to buy and own housing by creating a technical assistance program to help communities set up land trusts to help communities set up land trusts for housing preservation, in collabora-

tion with the emerging Greater Boston Community Land Trust Network.

Home Buying Portal: Reduce the cost of buying a home by working with Cambridge Financial technology to create a new home buying portal, which will lower the cost and difficulty of finding, buying, and owning home in Boston by providing personalized information about resources for first time homebuyers onto a single platform.

This Spring, the Housing Innovation Lab and their partners will host a launch event for these initiatives. Attendees will have the opportunity to tour a compact unit, build models of density bonus developments, participate in user experience testing of the Home Buying Portal or learn how to support community land trusts in their neighborhood.

The Mayor's Housing Innovation Lab is a collaboration between the Mayor's Office of New Urban Mechanics and the Department of Neighborhood Development and is funded by a Bloomberg Philanthropies innovation team grant.

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READING BETWEEN THE LINES CONTINUED FROM page 5

actions. A bombardment so fierce that famed jurist, Oliver Wendell Holmes, later wrote and spoke of it in a childhood memory. As a Boston schoolboy in the 1850's, Homes recalled passing everyday by a house which still has "cannonball embedded in its chimney since that barrage".

Over the centuries, Americans have been stirred to the defense of their country, in part by words identifying their cause. "Remember 911" is most recent. Before that it was "Remember Pearl Harbor". Earlier, "Remember the Maine". Still earlier, "Remember the Alamo". It was on the "Heights" that call to battle was first used as General Washington walked among the troops exhorting them to "Remember the Men of March the Fifth". Speaking of course, of the "Boston Massacre" six years earlier.

Upon awakening on March 5, 1776, General Howe first noticed the silenced cannons. Next, across the harbor, was the astonishing sight of the "Heights" bristling with troops and cannon from four positions. He

then made his famous statement, "These men have done more work in a night than mine could do in a month." Undeterred, Howe immediately drew up plans to attack across the harbor and dislodge the Americans from the Heights. All day, Boston was the scene of increasing alarm as British troops hustled about preparing for battle. Longboats were brought from the warships to ferry the troops for the assault and tied up at "Long Wharf". By late afternoon, 2,400 troops were lined up at the foot of "Long Wharf", today's Purchase Street.

Stay tuned next week for the final chapter.

In the meantime, please remember public drinking is illegal.

A number of "Family Zones" have been created throughout the parade route and will be listed today and next week. Please ask your guests to respect the celebration, the town, and themselves and refrain from "Mardi Gras" type actions. Folks have worked diligently for a year to provide a safe, fun day that can be enjoyed by all.

Take care till next week.



Celtic Tiger



D'Arcey's Castle, Connemara



The Parting Glass



The Tango at Tullamore

Irish Themed Paintings by Dan McCole

Well known and very talented South Boston artist Dan McCole is showcasing his Irish themed paintings for the St. Patrick's Day holiday. South Boston Today is proud to display such fine works of art for our readers. No matter what the season or occasion, Dan McCole creates art that just can't help put all those who view his work in the spirit and bring smiles so many faces.

Each day from now through Sunday, March 20 ... with the help of

Dan's meager internet skills (please God) ... the artist will post an image of one of his Irish-related watercolor paintings as a salute to the spirit of the season. And during this period framed prints of these paintings will receive a special discount. This discount will also apply to the purchase of prints all Dan's other paintings during this period. It seems like a timely gift for friends and family members, doesn't it?

One of the offerings is a print of a watercolor of "D'Arcey's Castle", a bit

west of Clifden, County Galway. The castle is actually called the Clifden Castle ... but it was built in the early 1800s by a farmer, John D'Arcy for his family. So let's give him a little credit. This scene was spotted a little way up from Carraroe, heading on the way to up the west coast ... just one of the thousands of scenes in Ireland that makes the visitor slap on the brakes and spend a few moments ... taking a breather from traveling ... to marvel at the view.

Other offerings include: "The Boys

at Rawson's" - Friday night at Rawson's Pub, Moville, County Donegal. "The Celtic Tiger" - This thatched roof cottage had sheltered and was the home for quite a few family generations. "The Tango at Tullamore" - There they are, the dishes done, prayers said, and the two of them 'fox-trotting' the night away. Takes the burn out of a hard day's work. Call for today's special price for this and all other Dan McCole prints ... 617 464-4237. "Well, it's like the savings of the green, isn't it?"

After Hours Parking at the City's Public School Lots Changed

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY - By Staff

Unless you are one of the fortunate residents who have a driveway, a rented spot or an inside garage, few would dispute that parking in South Boston can be a pain in the ankle. Most residents have gone through the aggravating routine of circling the block countless times in search of the illusive spot in which to leave their car, pickup or SUV for the night. Often, as a last resort, after you come up short during your search, there was a good chance you could put your vehicle in an open spot at one of the local community school's parking lots, as long as you moved it before 7am the next morning. Well, doing so just got a bit more difficult recently

as the City of Boston just changed the rules to use those lots.

Callers have noticed that the signs have been changed, further restricting the hours when parking is available to residents. What used to be legal parking from 4pm to 7am, Monday through Friday and all through the weekend, has been changed. The new, shorter hours are 6pm to 6am Monday through Friday. Weekends will still be open to the public. SBT has been told by city officials that towing (Walsh Towing) would definitely be enforced.

The reason given for the change is that some people would park their vehicles and just leave them there during the week and there would be no room for teachers and

staff vehicles. The school faculty vehicles would then be subject to ticketing because in most cases, they did not have resident parking stickers. The intent of these new hours would be to better guarantee the faculty at the schools a spot in which to legally put their cars. This change in policy is citywide and not just in South Boston.

Another point by readers was that the new signs say this will be enforced 'year round'. Prior to this, once school was out for the summer, anyone could use the lots 24/7. The summer parking will now be at the discretion of the individual headmasters at each particular school according to city sources. Bottom line is this: If you use the high school, Tynan or Condon School lots, you should remember to get up at least an hour earlier in the morning to move your vehicle and plan to park it 2 hours later in the afternoon or you could be facing a hefty towing charge as well as a ticket.

MBTA Board Approves Fare Changes

The MBTA Fiscal and Management Control Board today approved several fare changes that will take effect July 1, including decreasing by ten cents the price paid by those who pay with cash for a single bus ride, expanding the free transfer program so that the MBTA transfer policy will allow transfer from bus to rail to bus, setting a student pass rate of \$30-per-month and al-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 15

GRAND PRIX OF BOSTON


Please join representatives from the Grand Prix of Boston for a community meeting to discuss plans to bring a Verizon IndyCar Series race to the South Boston Waterfront. Hear from race organizers and their team about the plans for the race, progress made to date, and benefits to the community. Followed by a question and answer period.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16, 2016

Boston Convention & Exhibition Center - Room 156A
415 Summer Street, 6:00pm-8:00pm

FOR MORE INFORMATION, LOG ONTO

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NEIDL National Emerging Infectious Diseases Laboratories

We're Seeking Input from Our Community.

The National Emerging Infectious Diseases Laboratories (NEIDL) is seeking applications for new members for its Community Liaison Committee (CLC). The CLC was formed to facilitate communication between the NEIDL and the community and to ensure transparency in the activities of the NEIDL.

The mission of the CLC is to promote a continuing conversation between the community and the NEIDL about the NEIDL's activities and research. This dialogue must be an honest and respectful exchange of information, questions, and concerns intended to build trust and understanding.

The NEIDL, owned and operated by Boston University, is dedicated to the development of diagnostics, vaccines, and treatments for newly emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases. The NEIDL contains state-of-the-art BSL-2, BSL-3, and BSL-4 laboratories to conduct this important research in a safe and secure environment.

Individuals interested in becoming members of the committee may apply online at www.bu.edu/NEIDL or by contacting Valeda Britton, Executive Director, Community Relations/Boston University Medical Campus; email: neidl@bu.edu; phone: 617-638-1911.

All applications must be received by April 1, 2016.

Recent South Boston Real Estate Sales

Property/Type	Price	Sale Date	Rooms	Baths	Sq Ft
432 East Fifth Street Condo	\$1,200,000	1/8/16	17	3	4221
174 Gold St UNIT 3 Condo	\$1,010,000	1/4/16	6	2.5	1500
654 East Seventh Street Land Sale	\$899,000	12/30/15			
415-417 East Fifth Street Two Family	\$807,000	1/6/16	9	2	1848
82 G St UNIT 2 Condo	\$765,000	1/8/16	4	2	1126
137 West Third St UNIT 137 Condo	\$739,000	1/6/16	7	2.5	2111
149 Bowen & 183 D Streets Single Family	\$710,000	1/4/16	9	1.5	1678
413 East Seventh St UNIT 1 Condo	\$686,000	12/21/15	5	2.5	1421
862 East Second Sr UNIT 3 Condo	\$651,000	12/21/15	4	2	1042
360 West Second St UNIT 4 Condo	\$620,000	12/29/15	4	2	960
178 Bowen Street Two Family	\$590,000	1/6/16	9	3	1890
346 Dorchester St UNIT 2 Condo	\$585,000	12/30/15	5	2	1450
512 East Sixth Street Single Family	\$580,000	12/24/15	7	1.5	1189
204 Dorchester Street Single Family	\$576,000	12/24/15	8	2	1800
795 East Third St UNIT 1 Condo	\$549,000	12/22/15	4	1.5	1120
273 Gold Street Two Family	\$540,000	12/30/15	9	4	2813
261 West Second St UNIT 2 Condo	\$445,000	12/28/15	4	1	626
428 West Second St UNIT 3 Condo	\$439,000	12/23/15	4	2	650
8 Tuckerman Street Single Family	\$422,000	12/30/15	7	1	1716
160 O St UNIT 2 Condo	\$400,000	12/28/15	4	1	503
404 West First St UNIT 23 Condo	\$326,922	12/30/15	5	1	907
211 West Fifth St UNIT 1 Condo	\$319,000	1/5/16	2	1	575
762 East Sixth St UNIT 2 Condo	\$291,000	12/31/15	2	1	450
606 Dorchester Ave UNIT 2 Condo	\$290,000	12/24/15	4	1	620
11 Bell Court UNIT 1 Condo	\$263,000	1/8/16	2	1	385

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The Senior Connection

By Lu O'Brien

Now that Sully's is open, the seagulls, pigeons, sparrows and humans are happy. What a turn out it was. The weather was right and the lines were long. Everybody missed those hot dogs and now the summer is on. The grapefruit league has started and already the Sox are having trouble. I hope it all works out before the season starts. The Bruins are playing so-so. their destiny is in their hands now whether they make it to the

playoffs or not. Let's go B's!!!

Not much happening with senior events or news. With it being March, I guess that people have their minds set on the parade and the breakfast hosted by Senator Forray. March is a busy month with all the planning that has to go on.

I would like to invite seniors to add any news, events or short stories about Southie to this column. How about a senior with a significant age??? or how long you have been

married??? or How long you have lived in Southie. Yes, I got it started but I want you to know that this is for SENIORS. I want to share this column with you. Just call me at 617-464-1910 or email me at obielulu@yahoo.com...let's talk!!!

Blood Pressure Screenings:

Screenings will be held at the following locations for the month of March.

March 11-Curley Rec. Room from 11:30-12:00

March 16-Flaherty Apts. 120 H Street from 10:30-11:00

March 17-Castle Co-Op Apts. 225 W. 2nd Street from 12:00-12:30

These blood screenings are provided by the Visiting Nurses of Partners Healthcare at Home.

Neighborhood House is also looking for people interested in cribbage or whist players. This will be for bragging rights only. Interested??? Call Carole Sullivan

HAPPENINGS AT SOUTH BOSTON NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE MONDAY

Swimming/Aerobic at BAC at 9:30 am
Exercise at 10:00 am

Knitting/Crocheting and Sewing from 9:00-2:00

Kit Clark lunch at 12:00

Bingo at 12:45

TUESDAY

Swimming/Aerobic at BAC at 9:30 am
Yoga at 10:00

Bowling at 10:00 am

S.B. Healthy Diet at 10:00

Kit Clark lunch at 12:00

Trivia at 1:00

WEDNESDAY

Swimming/Aerobic at BAC at 9:30 am
Exercise at 9:15

Computer Tech from 10:00-12:00

Bingo at 12:45

THURSDAY

Swimming/Aerobic at BAC at 9:30 am

Kit Clark lunch at 12:00

Cards from 12:00-3:00

Yoga at 1:00

FRIDAY

Swimming/Aerobic at BAC at 9:30

Swimming/Aerobics at BAC 9:30

Exercise at 9:15

LCR game at 10:30

FRIENDLY REMINDERS:

Handicapped equipment: If you have shower chairs, toilet seat risers, rollators, commodes, canes, powerchairs, scooters, and you would like to pay it forward...call me, Lu O'Brien at 617-464-1910

I have 2 raised toilet seats, a regular walker, commode. I also have a box of Novolin Insulin. 5 pens are in the box. If you know of a diabetic who can use this... just give me a call if you can use this equipment.

Fair Foods: Every Tuesday, 115 Orton Marotta Way. \$2.00 for a bag of food. Please bring bags with handles because fruits and veggies are heavy are heavy to carry. The hours are from 1:30-2:30. Everyone is welcome.

The Curley Center/BCYF: Is serving Kit Clark lunches on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 11:30-12:30. A \$2.00 donation is appreciated.

BINGO!!!

Castle Cove Co-op. 225 W. 2nd Street. Wednesday night from 6:30-9:00

Taxi Coupons:

March 15-Carson Towers 1410 Columbia Rd. from 10:00-10:30

March 15-Maryellen McCormack Apts. from 1:30-2:00

March 16-Msgr. Powers Apt. 120 L Street from 11:00-11:30

March 6-Waterview Apts. 1350 Columbia Rd. from 12:30-1:00

Coupons are always available at the Elderly Commission at city hall, room 217

If this is your first time purchasing taxi coupons, please bring some form of ID with your birth date on it. The cost of coupons is \$10.00 for 2 books.

My name is Lu O'Brien. I can be reached at 617-464-1910 OR email me at obielulu@yahoo.com If you can't reach me, call Anne Brennan at 617-464-1910 and leave a message.

I will get back to you.

Have a wonderful week.

Please Join

The Committee To Elect Nick Collins

At

**A Saint Patrick's Day Fundraising Reception
For**

REP. NICK COLLINS

THURSDAY MARCH 17TH
6:00PM-8:00PM

LINCOLN TAVERN & RESTAURANT 425 WEST BRAODWAY

ENTERTAINMENT BY CURRAGH'S FANCY

Suggested donation: \$25, \$50, \$100

Individuals may donate up to \$1000
at www.votenickcollins.com

Paid by Committee to Elect Nick Collins PO BOX E-51 So. Boston MA 02127



Parade Update

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY - By Staff

Photo Credits: Jim Gavaghan

Fitzgerald Post Band Sponsor Fundraiser A Success

Giselle Sterling, the Mayor's Special Representative and City Commissioner of Veteran's Services, herself a former Marine, in her brief remarks at the March 5th Fitzgerald Post fundraiser pointed out she could literally, "feel and be part of the bond that joined the veterans and supporters from all eras".

After sitting at a table with those who were moved to join after December 7, 1941 to a young father who felt the same emotions after September 11th and has been serv-

ing ever since and decided to make South Boston his family's home, it is easy to understand her feeling. At the same table were veterans of Viet-Nam, Korea, the Gulf War and conflicts up to the present.

The purpose of the fundraiser was for funds to allow the Fitzzy Post to sponsor a band. Among the almost 150 attendees were Vatican Ambassador Ray Flynn and family, Suffolk Sheriff Tompkins, John Allison of the Mayor's Neighborhood Services, Dave Biel of Rep. Collins office. Community leader Robert Pacitti

and his wife Sharen, even with his wildly successful "Southie Reunion" to raise special needs kids funds on tap for later that night, took the time to drop in. The food, which won raves, was generously prepared and supplied by "Stats Restaurant", always a supporter.

The "time" also provided an opportunity for a special gesture of appreciation to Rep. Nick Collins for his tireless support of veterans and their cause. Representative Collins was presented an inscribed Paul Revere bowl by the Fitzgerald

Post citing and thanking him for his work. The award was particularly poignant with the recent passing of Nick's grandfather Charles McCarthy, a life member of the Post.

One thing that was made clear once again, (if there was ever doubt), that while the boys were off playing soldier, it was the women who kept the home fires burning and society rolling and its not much different when the soldiers come home. It was largely talented women from the community who volunteered and organized this event. Couldn't do it without them!



SBCA Announces Shamrock Awards

Patty McCormick, Chris Flaherty, Ryan Long and Andrew Lane to be Honored

South Boston Citizens' Association president Tom McGrath has announced the Association's 2016 recipients of the James M. "Jimmy" Kelly Shamrock Award for Community Service.

One of the 2016 Shamrock Awards will be presented to Patty McCormick for her selfless efforts in aiding those in need, and pitching in at the drop of a hat, for any benefit or worthy cause in the town.

Patty is a lifelong resident of South Boston, and for the past 25 years a proud resident of Andrew Square.

Patty is a 37-year employee of the South Boston Boys & Girls Club. Her most recent accomplishment at the Club is working on the Capital Campaign that resulted in an \$11.3 million renovation of the Clubhouse on the corner of F and West Sixth Streets, ensuring that the South Boston neighborhood will continue the strong tradition of providing services to children ages 6 to 18.

"She goes above and beyond in her work with the Club and Andrew Square and all other worthy causes in this town. Patty is all about South Boston and its survival as a community, and her positive attitude and actions reflect her dedication," McGrath said. She is a long-time member, and officer of the Andrew

Square Civic Association. This is one of the older neighborhood associations in the community, founded by John Mullen and Russell Waterman. As her predecessors did, she works hard to ensure that the Andrew Square neighborhood is respected and represented in the South Boston community. Patty is also a Committee Member for Veterans Express, which organized two trips giving local veterans the opportunity to visit their monuments in Washington, D.C. She is also a committee member for Thomas J. Fitzgerald Post Events, as well as committee member for the following: World War II Memorial, Commander Joseph Murphy Memorial, Doc Reid Memorial and Bob Moakley Memorial.

She also represents Andrew Square, as a member of the Neighborhood Advisory Council for Boston Police District C-6, assisting BPD in establishing policing priorities, as well as the strategies to achieve them. Lastly she is member of the South Boston Trauma Response Team. This group addresses the serious issues of substance abuse – overdoses and suicides that affect our neighborhood.

Our next recipients of the Jimmy Kelly Shamrock Award are Chris Flaherty, Andrew Lane and Ryan Long, three off-duty Boston firefighters,

who were at the beach working out this past summer, and saw the late Sean Malone swimming farther and farther from shore. That's when Chris Flaherty went on a paddleboard in an attempt to rescue him. But as The Boston Globe reported, Malone was nowhere to be found by the time Flaherty reached him. But three teenagers, who were out on a powerboat at the time — 17-year-old Joey Binda, 18-year-old John Feeney, and 17-year-old Elliott Chauvet – spotted Flaherty calling for help in the search and raced to him. When Flaherty told the teens that Malone had disappeared, they began searching. Together they found the nearly drowned and now-unconscious man, and the teens loaded him onto the boat to bring them back to shore.

The Boston Globe recounted details of the harrowing rescue:

"Once they had Malone on-board, Flaherty told Binda, who was driving the boat, 'Get him to shore as fast as you can.' 'Feeney and Chauvet assisted Flaherty in performing CPR on Malone, while the boat raced to meet two other off-duty firefighters, Ryan Long and Andrew Lane, at the bathhouse. The two firefighters were waiting with a defibrillator they had retrieved from the building." Mc-

Grath stated, "These three young men are an asset to our community, and went well above and beyond in their work as Boston Firefighters. Knowing the training these men have received from the department should make us all feel better that these men are true first responders living in our community".

"It gives me great pleasure to announce these awards," said McGrath. "These are truly dedicated and committed individuals who have contributed so much in their own unique ways. It is fitting for the Citizens' Association, and the South Boston community, to honor these individuals. We will be announcing the remaining award winners next week."

The awards will be presented at the Association's 136th Annual Evacuation Day Banquet, to be held on Friday evening, March 18th, 5:30-6:30 Reception, Dinner 7PM Sharp, at the Boston Convention & Exhibition Center. Curragh's Fancy will provide the entertainment, along with a host of special Dignitaries.

McGrath cautioned that tickets are sure to be purchased at a good pace, with so many of South Boston's most valued community leaders receiving awards. I urge those that are planning to attend to act fast. For information on tickets call Tom McGrath at 1-857-204-5825.

REALLY NECESSARY? CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

Heights and 17% for the route starting at Andrew Square and includes Dorchester Heights.

Are there conspirators somewhere out there in the cyber 'cloud' that decide to have fun with this community and light a political cherry bomb to create chaos and promote theatrics? It

sure seems that way. Now, as has been put forth, there is a degree of merit to the safety argument for shorter parades in general, but the reasons are flimsy, but, even if it ultimately could make sense, why start with South Boston? And why start by cutting out the section of town upon which one of the landmarks of the celebration sits?

With the passing of Wacko

Hurley, the soul of The Allied War Veterans Council, the parade committee has a tough enough job organizing, managing and financing a parade without having to again deal with tiresome rhetoric, nasty rumors, belittling attitudes and an all-around shaming of the parade. Isn't it enough that this community has endured the assaults on its heritage and has the scars to prove that

it stands for freedom and will fight to preserve its long held traditions.

A resident octogenarian left a word of advice to decision makers - Shorten the other parades in Boston first, in the interest of the same safety concerns as has been expressed here, and then come back and talk to South Boston about its parade route. Southie needs the break for a change.



Annual Evacuation Day Swim Competition Makes a Big Splash

It was noisy, it was raucous and it was a whole lot of fun for all the future Olympian swimmers, who took to water at the beautiful pool at the South Boston Boys and Girls Club last Tuesday Night. The occasion was the annual Evacuation Day Swimming Competition sponsored by the South Boston Citizens Association, as part of its big lineup of super events. Yes, it was noisy

as it should have been, as so much awesome swimming talent was on display by both the boys and the girls, who were giving their heart and soul to the cheers of a huge crowd of enthusiastic competitors. Their proud parents were looking on and cheering for every kid swimming in each and every event. Good sportsmanship ruled the event from start to finish.

Among those looking on with appreciative smiles were Tom McGrath, president of the Citizens' Association and Harry Duvall, director at the Boys and Girls Club, because everything was going perfectly. But the best part of all was that everyone in attendance for the event, competitors and spectators alike, was having a great time. This event drew one of

the biggest crowds ever and keeps growing in popularity.

Congratulations to the South Boston Citizens Association and to the fantastic staff at the club for a job well done. And of course a big 'shout out' goes to every one of the kids who competed, as well as to their coaches, for the tremendous spirit shown. You all deserve very special praise.

Youth Hockey Registration And Coach Recruitment

SBYHL is in the process of recruiting coaches for the upcoming 16-17 season. If you are interested, please visit www.sbyhl.org for an application and return it to a member of SBYHL board by 3/14. A committee will be formed to determine ALL coaches for the upcoming season. Please pass this along to anyone you feel would be a good fit for the program.

2016/2017 Registration and Evaluation

All players must be paid in full in order to register for the 2016-2017 Season and will not be allowed to skate at the evaluation or be placed on a team with an outstanding tuition balance.

Registrations for the 2016-2017 Season will take place on the following dates/times:* At the rink
March 8th, 9th, 10th 6-8PM
March 13th 3-8PM
March 14th, 15th, 16th 6-8PM

YOU MUST REGISTER BEFORE EVALUATIONS BEGIN

2016-2017 EVALUATION Schedule:

March 21: 5:00 Mite/6:00 Squirt/7:00 Bantam
March 22: 5:00 Squirt/6:00 PeeWee/7:00 Bantam
March 23: 5:00 Mite/6:00 GIRLS/7:00 Midget
March 24th 5:00 Girls/6:00 PeeWee/7:00 Midget

SBYHL will have coaches on the ice running tryouts and other individuals observing and evaluating players on the ice.

All players must pay \$300.00/player at registration - \$60.00 is the tryout fee and \$240.00 will be applied to the 2016-2017 tuition.

Payments can be made by credit card OR check

Thanks so much!!

Lisa Meagher O'Neil
Director of Sales and Marketing

South Boston Leadership Initiative Programs

The South Boston Leadership Initiative and BCYF-Curley Community Center have partnered to offer a variety of free youth programs and workshops to be held at the Curley Community Center (M St Entrance) in South Boston. The programs are open to any South Boston resident or student, and will each run for ten total weeks in the Spring. *Some highlights include:*

Math Olympics

- Team Competition
- Mondays from 4:30-6:30pm (March 14th)
- 4th-9th Grades
- Prizes for top 3 teams

Youth Fitness and Nutrition Program

- Ages 12-18
- Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4:30-6:30pm (March 22nd)
- Free Injury Profile provided by Elliott Physical Therapy

SAT Prep Course

- Wednesdays from 5-7pm (March 16th)



For more detailed information and to sign up, please go to:
www.SouthBostonLeadership.org.

Kevin Ryan to Receive SBCA John W. McCormack Public Service Award

South Boston Citizens' Association President Tom McGrath is pleased to announce that Kevin Ryan has been chosen to receive the John W. McCormack Award at the South Boston Citizens' Association's 136th Annual Evacuation Day Banquet, March 18, 2015. "It is an honor for the Association to present this award to Kevin for his countless contributions to the betterment of South Boston, The Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the United States for well over 30 years," McGrath said.

In 1982, Kevin Ryan moved to Washington DC with the assistance of then Congressman Joe Moakley to work at the US House of Representatives Post Office.

In 1983, Congressman Moakley appointed Kevin to work as a legislative assistant on the Subcommittee on the Rules of the House. In 1989, after Congressman Moakley was named Chairman of the House Rules Committee, Kevin was promoted to the staff of the House Rules Committee serving as a House Floor Assistant to the Committee and Congressman Moakley. In 1996, Kevin was appointed Chief of Staff for Congressman Moakley where he served until Congressman Moakley passed away in May of 2001.

Upon his election to Congress in October, 2001, Congressman Stephen Lynch appointed Kevin as his Chief of Staff where Kevin is currently serving today. Kevin has worked with the South Boston Community Health Center, the Cushing House, as well as a number of local elected officials in helping them identify federal

funding opportunities and assisting them in navigating through the federal agencies in Washington DC. In addition, Kevin has worked with the South Boston Veterans groups when the veterans went to Washington DC to tour the WWII, Korean and Vietnam Memorials.

Kevin is a member of the Board of Directors for the John Joseph Moakley Scholarship Committee which has awarded nearly \$2 million in scholarships awards to the students of the 8th and 9th Congressional District, including dozens of South Boston students. Kevin grew up in the Old Colony Housing Projects with his four sisters Kathy Ryan, Karen MacDougall, Terry White, and Kelly Fullam and is a graduate of South Boston High, Class of 75. Kevin also holds a BS in Business Administration from Averett University and M.A. in Government from Johns Hopkins University. Kevin is the son of Terry and Rob Ryan and is married to Laurie Ryan and the proud father of Christian Ryan.

This award, along with the Shamrock and President's awards, will be presented at the Association's 136th Annual Evacuation Day Banquet, to be held on Friday evening, March 18th, at the Boston Convention & Exhibition Center. A host of special invited Dignitaries are expected to attend this year's banquet. Curragh's Fancy will provide the entertainment.

McGrath cautioned that tickets are sure to be purchased at a good pace, with so many of South Boston's most valued community leaders receiving awards. I urge those that are planning to attend to act fast. For information on tickets call Tom McGrath at 1-857-204-5825.



Brad Stevens Named Eastern Conference Coach of the Month

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY - By Tony Samboras

For anyone who has not been paying attention, the Boston Celtics are starting to make a lot of noise in the Eastern Conference. With a current record of 37-25, they have solidified their place as the #3 seed in the Eastern Conference playoff race with just over six weeks remaining.

It's hard to pinpoint exactly why the team have been playing so well over the past 4-6 weeks, but it's a good bet is has to do with two factors. First, they have been playing some of the best team ball in the league for the better part of the season. While Isaiah Thomas (no relation to the Hall of Fame guard) has no doubt established himself as the team's leader and best player, he's far from what experts would classify as a superstar. Instead, the Celtic have been relying on anyone of 6-7 players who can step up on any given

night to make a big difference in leading the team to a win.

The other factor has to do with Head Coach Brad Stevens. Based on the team's 8-4 February record against some very good teams, Stevens was just named "Eastern Conference Coach of the Month." Under his guidance, the Celts are really starting to come together. During the month, they led the league in scoring (110.8 PPG) and free throw percentage (81.3 percent) while finishing second in assists per game with 26.5.

In this, his third season, Stevens has shown a knack for getting the best out of his players. They currently have seven players averaging in double figures, led by Thomas at 21.4 PPG and Avery Johnson at 15.3 PPG. Thomas also leads the team in assists with 6.2 per game while center Jared Sullinger leads the team in rebounds 8.6 per game.

During his first two seasons with the team, Stevens was forced to deal

with a series of untimely injuries and a few personal problems. With that said, the team's progress have been noticeable. During the 2013-14 season, the Celtics were and abysmal 25-57. Last year, things started coming together when Thomas was acquired in a midseason deal with the Phoenix Suns. They ended up the season at 40-42 and made the playoffs as the #7 seed in the Eastern Conference.

While further improvement was expected coming into this season, many people are surprised to see the team competing for one of the top three seeds and valuable home court advantage through the early part of the playoffs. Perhaps the only person not surprised is Stevens himself who has always seemed to have confidence in his team's ability to play with most any other team in the league.

At age 39, this kind of success is not new to Stevens. During his six season career as head coach of the Butler Bulldogs, he had an amazing

.772 winning percentage (166-49) while leading his team into the NCAA tournament in five of his six years. In fact, the Bulldogs ended up NCAA runner-ups in back-to-back seasons (2009-10 and 2010-11). That's quite an accomplishment for a small Indiana school with a total enrollment in the vicinity of 4,500 students.

With a little over six weeks left in the regular season, free bets on NBA awards predictions are starting to make the rounds. In fact, some online sportsbooks have started listing NBA free prop bets in selected categories. While the combination of Luke Walton and Steve Kerr of Golden State would seem to be a lock for the Coach of the Year Award, you shouldn't rule the chances of Stevens making a run over the rest of the season. Stay tuned for other free bets awards predictions as NBA free prop bets get listed on selected online sportsbook sites.

This article was contributed by sports journalist Tony Samboras who is an NBA and NFL contributor to many online publications. To see more of his work, you can visit the blog section of www.freebookmakersbetsandbonuses.com.au.

MBTA FARE CHANGES CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

lowing use of the pass by students 12 months out of the year, and postponing consideration of any future fare increases for two-and-a-half years. The overall system-wide average increase is approximately 9.3 percent.

The board also established a "lock-box" to guarantee that any revenue from the increase

can only be used to improve service. The board took into consideration public comments gathered during a series of community meetings held throughout the state, emails and phone messages. Members acted to address concerns expressed during that process.

The measure includes:

- A single cash price to ride a bus decreases by ten cents

- Expands free transfers for MBTA riders, allowing free transfers from bus to rail to bus
- Student Pass at \$30 (12 months), senior pass at \$30
- Bus Pass at \$55
- Outer Express Bus at existing prices
- Bus fares: Cash/Ticket \$2.00, CharlieCard \$1.70
- The RIDE at 5 percent, instead of 10 percent increase

- Bulk discount for schools purchasing more than 1,000 passes a month
 - Pilot student pass on fare vending machines
 - Review of Commuter Rail zones
 - Steps to address fare evasion and enforcement
 - Free transfer extended to bus-rail-bus trips
- To learn more about these changes, visit MBTA.com.**

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March 17th, St. Patrick's Day
Corned Beef Dinner All Day
11:30AM - 8:00PM

SAT. 3/12
8PM to Midnight
Kenny Morrell
on the keyboards

SAT. 3/19
8PM - Midnight
Karaoke Night
with **Nick Morrell**

Kitchen Open 11am til 4pm Mon-Thu, Fri til 10pm, Sat & Sun til 6pm

Featuring a Full Color Section with Irish trivia, songs, folklore and more

St. Patrick's Day Supplement

Published Thursday, March 17



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