



RE-Zoning Meetings Continue Attendance Dropped Off

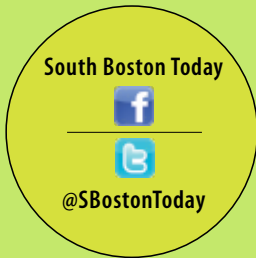
Despite publicized notice, the attendance at Tuesday night’s BRA presentation and focus group sessions at the Condon School regarding the rezoning of South Boston Proper was much less than the first meeting at the Tynan and surprisingly less than anticipated, given the significance of the matter itself. The next meeting will address setbacks and overhangs.

Representatives and residents from City Point to Gate of Heaven to Dorchester Heights to

CONTINUED ON page 10

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EDITORIAL

“We want to believe”

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY -By Staff

“We want to believe”, seems to be the underlying theme for the FBI agents Scully and Mulder in their search for extraterrestrial solutions for mysterious cases. Unlike Scully and Mulder, Morris and Connolly, the two disgraced agents connected to Bulger case, did not work alone in a vacuum apart from other agents. There were others who seem to have simply moved on.

At least two, who should have been aware during their time in Boston, moved on to become part of the FBI team that responded to Ruby Ridge and Waco. In the first, a woman holding

a child was shot and killed by an FBI sniper following the shooting death of her 13-year-old son and that of U. S. Marshall Billy Deegan. Waco, of course ended with the fiery death of 74 people including 12 small children.

During their time in Boston they curiously were unaware of the active FBI protection and cover of the murders and drug dealing of their top informant. During his 16 years on the run in the company of Cathy Greig he committed none of the crimes, yet somehow, today, she will be sentenced for the act of being in his presence. “We want to believe”, yet something seems askew or out of whack.

We’ve been told FBI Director Comey

is a man of integrity, not swayed by politics and, “we want to believe”. We’re also told his timetable on the e-mail security crime is simply to do what’s best for the country. It’s hard to see how indicting one party’s nominee after the primaries are concluded, days before the convention, is best for the election process. No matter who you support, even worse, imagine indicting the President-elect?

Three deadlines offered by Mr. Comey’s FBI for a decision have come and gone, while the vendetta on Cathy Greig continues. “We want to believe” Director Comey, but only he can make that happen.



“To be yourself in a world that is constantly trying to make you something else is the greatest accomplishment” - Ralph Waldo Emerson



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The Information Center



Sharing some of our Reader's Concerns

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY
John Ciccone

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

This newspaper often gets quite a bit of feedback to what is printed here, as well as comments, complaints and suggestions about what's going on in the neighborhood and even across the rest of the city, state and country. It comes in by social media, as well as more traditional methods like hand written letters and yes, even phone calls. The amount of that feedback varies, depending on what the hot issues, if any, are at the time. The overwhelming amount is positive, although the negative is welcome here as well. Really, we don't need to hide in 'safe spaces' from opposing views. It's not who we are. We are Americans and of course South Bostonians. We can handle anything that comes our

way. So from time to time, I get the urge to share some of the comments that we get from our readers to help gauge the pulse of what's on the minds of people, who take the time to contact us with their thoughts and concerns.

Locally, there seems to be 2 major worries among several other, less urgent issues. One is the onslaught of development that has many people baffled and frustrated by the sheer scale of it all. The other is the epidemic of drug abuse that is ravaging so many of America's youth and has hit South Boston hard as well.

First, some of your comments about development: One writer stated that she was out and about last Monday in her car to do her errands and it seemed like everywhere she turned, at nearly

every corner there were dump trucks, an excavator and any number of other pieces of heavy equipment that had to be negotiated around just to get by. She stated: "These condos are sprouting up like weeds. She went on to say - "It's pretty bad when it takes 45 minutes to go six blocks to get groceries and another 15 minutes to get to the Post Office 4 blocks further."

Another commenter stated that he just bought a new refrigerator. His plan was to take the empty cardboard box it came in, try to figure out how to attach a roof deck to it and call it a luxury condo. Then he'd put it up for rent for \$3,500 a month. He asked- "Why not? Some of the new dwellings up for sale and rent around here aren't much bigger and the quality of construction

is about the same as my cardboard box." Ouch!!

Then there was the one we've heard before from residents whose homes are ten feet away from their next door neighbor's house. "I'm actually afraid to go to work in the morning because I'm worried there'll be a new condo in that space between the houses when I get home." Just watching what's going on around town, could we really rule out that possibility?

Next up, the substance abuse plague that has ruined so many families and taken the lives of countless friends, neighbors and relatives: This has really got people worried and justifiably so. One phone caller at her wits end since the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 15

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Window Into The State House

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

Leak investigation into the Walsh wiretap disclosures?

Tucked into their Globe op-ed this morning on how grand jury proceedings should and shouldn't be conducted, Nancy Gertner and Jack Corrigan delicately broach the subject of how grand jury details leaked out about the ongoing fed probe into alleged union strong-arming tactics in Boston. Among the disclosures was that the feds had wiretapped a conversation between contractors and Marty Walsh, then head of the Boston Building Trades, during negotiation over use of union laborers on construction projects. Gertner, a retired federal judge, and Corrigan, a former state prosecutor, never mention the

Walsh wiretap disclosures. But they make clear the grand jury leaks in the case were wrong if committed by the feds. "Yes, there should be an investigation if there was real impropriety, but this time it should include the source of these leaks," the duo write. "And the press needs to remind the public that leaks are never the whole story."

Now the BRA gets dragged into the union-probe controversy

We'll just let this Herald story speak for itself: "A BRA member and labor official reportedly linked to a federal probe into union strong-arming tactics will remain on the board as he faces separate charges for threatening to 'kill' a fellow union member with a baseball bat.

"Michael P. Monahan, 53, an IBEW vice president, is set to be arraigned in Dorchester District Court on May 5 on charges of assault with a dangerous weapon and making threats to commit a crime. "You're dead, your (expletive) kids are dead ... and you won't even see it coming," he warned the alleged victim." Monahan's attorney said the "dust-up" never happened. Did we mention that Monahan was the union member on the Boston Zoning Board of Appeals at the time the feds wiretapped Walsh saying a contractor might have problems getting necessary permits in Boston? A Herald editorial is calling on Walsh, who didn't appoint Monahan to the BRA, to demand Monahan's resignation.

Baker Signals Update: Baker signals yet again he won't veto transgender bill

Has there been a local media-driven story of late that comes even close to the parsing-of-every-word attention given to Gov. Charlie Baker's non-stance stance on the transgender-rights bill that almost everyone assumes will eventually pass into law anyway? We can't think of one. But just in case you need a non-update update on Baker's position, there's this Globe story headlined "Baker sends signals he wouldn't veto transgender bill" and this Herald story headlined "Charlie Baker expresses support for transgender protections." About the only reason to keep covering this story is to see if Baker eventually snaps. We're talking a full sobbing, I-can't-take-it-anymore, begging-for-mercy snap of epic proportions as he's hauled out of the State House in a strait jacket. Now that would be news.

Grand Prix slowed by conservation commission

Boston's Conservation Commission has stopped organizers of the Boston Grand Prix from completing construction work in flood zones, a potentially damaging

ruling that organizers plan to appeal to state officials, Joe Battenfeld of the Herald reports. The ConCom rejected arguments from organizers that obtaining a new permit could put the Labor Day race in jeopardy, admonishing them for not starting the process sooner.

Making college more affordable

State officials yesterday unveiled a new program that could help Massachusetts students save an average of about \$5,000 off the cost of obtaining a bachelor's degree, reports Louise Kennedy at WBUR. Called "Commonwealth Commitment," the program would give qualifying undergraduates a 10 percent rebate at the end of each semester they complete and allow students who earn an associate's degree at a community college to transfer with a tuition waiver to a four-year Massachusetts university, according to the WBUR report. Tuition and mandatory fees also would be frozen at the date a student starts the program.

Baker wants cities, towns to control own liquor licenses

On yet another regulatory front, the Baker administration is seeking to give communities the ability to issue more liquor licenses, saying the current approach—which caps licenses based on population—is stifling economic activity, Christian Wade reports in the Eagle Tribune. The legislature has shown little receptivity so far and Wade notes that former Gov. Deval Patrick had tried to lift the cap but got nowhere with lawmakers.

'Chinese delegation to talk lobster'

If they were from Norway, no one would care. But since they're from China, it matters. So a visit today by a delegation of Chinese and Chinese-American officials is being treated as big deal in Gloucester, reports Sean Horgan in the Gloucester Times. From the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

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Reading Between The Lines

“Rip Van Winkle”

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY
Brian R. Mahoney

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

Today's column will upset at least one reader who sent a letter to John Ciccone and me complaining that both our columns contain too much history. The letter stated history lessons were a pain in school days and John and I were just trying to show “how smart we were”. Well, here's how “smart” John and I are. In over 20 years for me and about 40 for John, neither of us has ever been paid a penny (Unless John is holding out on me). That's how smart we are.

As far as history goes, there can't be more than a handful of columns, during that span, that didn't have some historical reference. Today will be no different.

Most folks are aware that the first American victory in history was won from Dorchester Heights. At the time there were actually 5 fortified positions - Thomas Park, Dorchester and 2nd Streets, M Street Park, Farragut Road and Broadway and the last at B and 3rd Streets.

Over the years, as Boston expanded by filling in shore line and mud flats, these “Heights” or Hills were cut down and used to fill this expanded territory. Thomas Park was saved, primarily because in the early years a reservoir, supplying the water needs of South Boston, it sat atop the hill where South Boston High sits today.

Due in large measure to the efforts of the South Boston Citizens Association beginning around 1890, a movement to preserve and commemorate the event resulted in the funding that built and dedicated the Heights Monument in 1902. However, except for annual March 17th historical exercises, its significance was ignored and

bare minimum maintenance was expended on the site. For more than 60 years, that status quo remained. In the 70's however, South Boston son and U. S. Congressman Joe Moakley succeeded in granting National Historic Designation to the Heights and the assignment of National Park Service Rangers. The efforts to bring greater recognition to this site have continued and resulted in a partnership between the Park Service and the community. The results of that partnership will be revealed on June 4th but you, loyal reader, will get a preview right now.

On June 4th, beginning at 11:00am, a ceremony will be held to dedicate a full size replica 18 pounder cannon. This was one of the largest guns used by the rebels. It will be mounted on a solid granite gun carriage and there sit, (hopefully) for all time. The ceremony itself will run till 4:00 PM and will feature music, military units, art contests and other events including an archeological dig. The dig itself should be interesting, as historians have discovered and will have marked out the original “star” design of the gun emplacements of that long ago battle of 240 years ago. When the day draws near we'll print more information but for now consider this a “heads up”.

Returning to the upset reader, all I can think of is Rip Van Winkle. The critical letter went on to say that John and I have to let the community “know what's going on”. Don't you realize, “long-time residents are being squeezed out by the big bucks people”? The letter asked haven't

we noticed, “how Broadway has changed and the restaurants are so expensive”?

My only response is “Rip, where have you been”? Speaking only for myself, since 1997, I've attended over 2,500 community meetings. That's a low estimate averaging only two meetings a week, every week. I might be a dope for using up so much of my life, but what about you Rip? I don't recall your face at a single meeting. You say Southie has changed? You don't know the half of it. With 33

thousand residents only 3,000 have lived here more than 20 years and of that 3,000 only slightly more than 900 are lifelong residents. How do I know this?

Unlike you Rip, John and I are involved and have devoted a considerable portion of our lives in attempting to keep the entire community informed and involved. The best advice is if you don't like our columns don't buy our newspaper. Oh but wait, I just remembered, our paper is free.

Take care till next week.

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Hillary VS. The Donald A Match Made In ?

It appears that the 2016 general election has all but begun. The two presidential front-runners celebrated a Tuesday night victory, each with major wins in East Coast primaries and getting closer towards their party's nominations. And in victory speeches that showcased their diametrically contrasting tone and style, Trump and Clinton obviously have their eye on the General Election. Neither have secured the required delegates yet to win the nomination of their party Tuesday, but it was a huge night for both.

At a news conference at his Trump Tower offices in New York

City, Trump declared that the GOP primary was "over." "I consider myself the presumptive nominee," Trump said, as he blasted his two Republican rivals for making a deal to work against him. "Gov. (John) Kasich and Sen. (Ted) Cruz have really, really hurt themselves with a faulty deal that was defaulted on before it was even started."

Clinton, who has been trying to shake off Sen. Bernie Sanders for months, signaled at a campaign rally in Philadelphia that she would work to win over the senator's supporters and unite the Democratic base. "Whether you support Sen. Sanders or you support me, there's much

more that unites us than divides us," Clinton said.

Trump now has 988 delegated to Cruz' 566 to Kasich's 152. 1237 is needed to clinch the nomination. The momentum that Trump may now have will likely turn voters in the remaining states to back a presumptive winner, but neither Cruz nor Kasich will back off unless the Republican Party leaders decide to face the reality of Trump's success. Several reports have indicated that party players are warming up to the idea. It has also been noted that in the past there were Stop Reagan, Stop Carter and Stop Nixon movements that fizzled out.

Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders are in the 9th Round of a 10 rounder. Although Clinton has

2168 delegates to Sanders 1401, when you take out the phenomenon of the Democratic Party's built-in 'candidate control factor', the Super Delegates, the delegate count is Clinton 1666 to Sanders 1359. Super Delegates have been awarded to Clinton 502 to Sanders 42. Highlighting the questionable existence of this 'party control factor' is what is probably keeping Sanders in the race.

Finally, it is clear that the media is gearing up for an epic presidential race that will likely devolve into a high priced cinematic muckraking drama series promoted by the media empires that will make millions of dollars on advertising and paid media throughout their network of outlets in the United States and around the globe. No one would be surprised if political strategists are lining up a random third party candidate to benefit one or the other nominee. This election is that crucial to special interests on both sides.

It is further likely, as with all past elections, that the % of the electorate that will ultimately decide the race will likely be less than typical 10% undecided. It may actually be close to that of John F. Kennedy's margin of victory over Richard Nixon in 1960 of 112,827 popular votes or a .0017 differential or as was further underscored – the difference of 1 vote per precinct across the United States. For the record there was a 62.8 % turnout with Kennedy 34,220,984 – Nixon 34,108,157.

56 years later may just be that epic, but for different reasons. Your vote does indeed count.

WINDOW CONTINUED FROM page 4

story: "Mark Ring, chairman of the city's Fisheries Commission, said the Chinese delegation has a two-pronged focus, with the group from the consul general's office interested chiefly in lobsters, while those from the culinary federation seem more interested in the wide variety of Gloucester seafood that ultimately could find its way onto the menus of Chinese restaurants throughout the country."

Amazon's Roxbury problem

Let's say you're a black man or woman who's long tried to convey to your white friends and colleagues all the daily indignities and prejudices faced by African Americans. Sometimes the message gets through. Sometimes it doesn't. It can be a hard thing to convey to people who don't live the experience. Then along comes Amazon.com, making the point crystal clear in the statistically most simple way,

as reported in the Globe by Dan Adams, Meghan Irons and Megan Woolhouse: "Eleven months after its debut, Amazon's same-day delivery service is available to nearly everyone in Greater Boston — everyone, that is, except for residents of three ZIP codes in predominantly black Roxbury." Three excluded ZIP codes. They stick in the mind. OK, there are indeed other predominantly black neighborhoods in Boston getting Amazon's Prime same-

day service, as the Globe reports. And there are indeed many other businesses that shun Roxbury for a variety of seemingly sound economic and business reasons. But those three excluded ZIP codes say so much. Read the Globe's story for local reactions. In addition, it was Bloomberg's David Ingold and Spencer Soper who originally discovered Amazon's ZIP code "anomaly" here and elsewhere. So check out their story too.



MAYOR WALSH HOSTS RETURN OF THE SWANS ON MAY 3

Mayor Martin J. Walsh and Boston Parks Commissioner Chris Cook welcome Boston's most popular waterfowl back during the 28th Annual Return of the Swans event on Tuesday, May 3. The celebration in the Public Garden begins with entertainment at 11 a.m.

"I'm excited to announce the return of the swans back to Boston," said Mayor Walsh. "Romeo and Juliet help make the Public Garden special to visitors of all ages and thousands of residents and tourists will be enjoying their grace and beauty in the Public Garden Lagoon this summer."

After wintering at the

Franklin Park Zoo, Romeo and Juliet will reside during the summer months in the Public Garden. The swans will be returned to the lagoon following a parade that begins at the Beacon and Charles Street corner of the park near the Make Way for Ducklings statue.

Carts beautifully decorated by Boston's Winston Flowers will help usher the swans to the release site. Led by a brass band, the parade will continue to the George Washington Statue at the Commonwealth Avenue/Arlington Street entrance, over the pedestrian bridge, and end on the Boylston Street side of the lagoon for the official Return of the

Swans ceremony.

The accompanying entertainment program, sponsored in part by the Friends of the Public Garden, begins at 11 a.m. The celebration will include a brass band, face painters, a reading of Jennifer Delaney's "Swan Boat Season in Boston" led by the Boston Park Rangers, and children's activities presented by the Four Seasons Hotel Boston.

In-kind sponsors HP Hood LLC and the Four Seasons Hotel Boston will provide cookies and tasty treats. For more information, please call the Boston Parks and Recreation Department at (617) 635-4505 or visit the Department on Facebook.



Prescription Drug Take Back Program – This Saturday April 30

On Saturday April 30, 2016 from 10 am till noon South Boston FAN/CAN Advisory Collaborative in Partnership with the South Boston Youth Council will host a Prescription take back with Captain Boyle and his staff. The Boston Police Department at Area 6 will welcome all to clean out their medicine cabinets.

The safe disposal of medicines is a positive step YOU can take to make your home and our community at safer and healthier place to live. All you have to do is remove all personal identification from the

pill containers put them in a plastic bag and drop them off at South Boston Police Station 100 West Broadway, South Boston, MA.

There is no paper work and you just deposit your unused medicine in a kiosk...mailbox.

Why bring them to the station? You want control over the medicine in your house and how they are used. This is a positive step you can take to address the heroin epidemic. This is the environmentally correct way to not pollute the ocean.

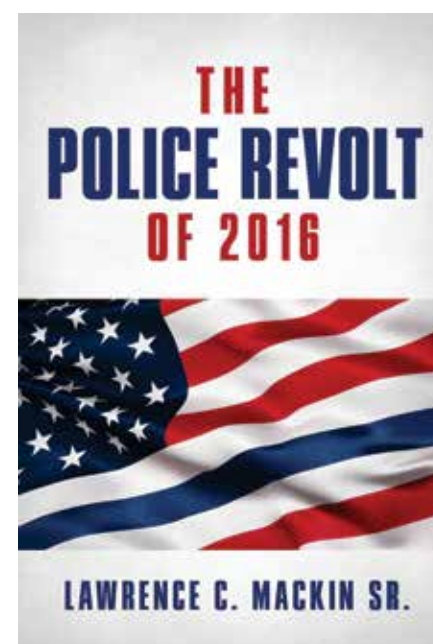
Hope to see you on Saturday! Kay Walsh 617-308-1154

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MAYOR WALSH CALLS ON RESIDENTS TO PARTICIPATE IN BOSTON SHINES, A CITYWIDE EFFORT TO CLEAN THE STREETS OF BOSTON

As part of an annual effort to beautify the streets of Boston in time for the spring season, Mayor Martin J. Walsh has asked for Boston residents' to participate in Boston Shines, a citywide initiative to clean the neighborhoods across the city. Boston Shines will bring together thousands of volunteers, including businesses, community groups and residents to clean up after the winter season.

"The people of Boston take tremendous pride in their

neighborhoods and over the next three weekends we will reach every corner of the city to make Boston even more beautiful," said Mayor Walsh. "Boston Shines represents the great work that we can accomplish when we work together to improve the quality of life for our residents. I thank all the volunteers in advance for their help in working to clean our streets and I look forward to doing my part to make Boston shine."

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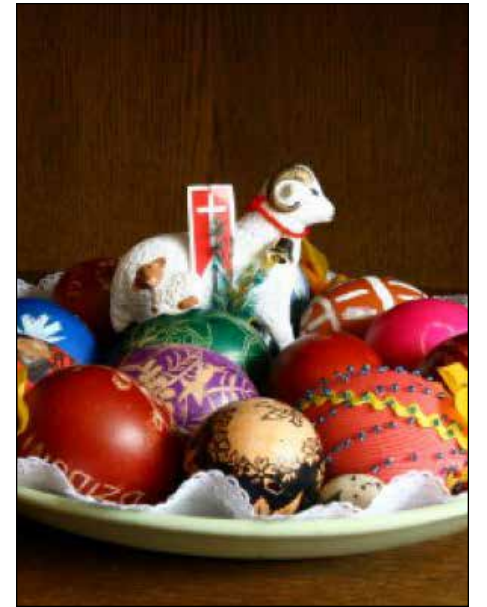
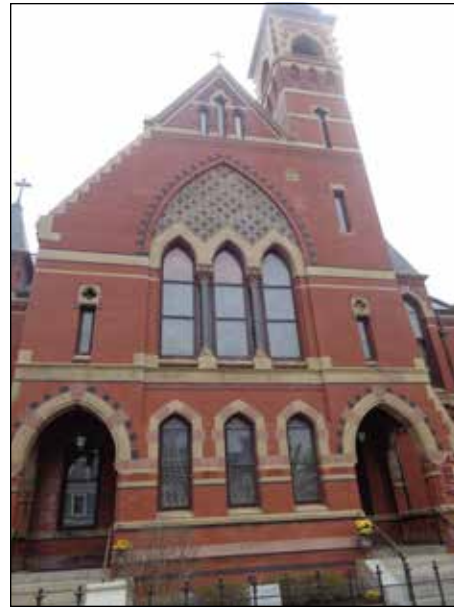
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A release of oil and/or hazardous material (OHM) has occurred at this location, which is a disposal site as defined by M.G.L. c. 21E, § 2 and the Massachusetts Contingency Plan (MCP; 310 CMR 40.0000). To evaluate the release, a Phase I Initial Site Investigation (ISI) was performed pursuant to 310 CMR 40.0480. As a result of this investigation, the site has been classified as Tier II pursuant to 310 CMR 40.0500. To obtain more information on this disposal site, please contact Mr. Erik Bankey, Massport, 1 Harborside Drive, Boston, Massachusetts, 02128-0000, 617-568-5000.

The Tier II Classification Submittal and the disposal site file can be reviewed on-line at <http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/>, or at MassDEP, Northeast Regional Office, 205B Lowell Street, Wilmington, MA, 01887, 978-694-3200.

Additional public involvement opportunities are available under 310 CMR 40.1403(9) and 310 CMR 40.1404.



Albanian Orthodox Easter Celebrated This Weekend

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY - By Staff

This coming weekend is Easter/Pashka weekend for the Albanian Orthodox Church's; two of which are located in South Boston. As most people are aware, many Orthodox Churches base their Easter on the Julian calendar which differs from the Gregorian calendar used by other Christian denominations. The Orthodox Easter often, but not always occurs after the Easter observance of most Roman Catholic and Protestant churches.

In South Boston,

St. George Cathedral, which is located at 523 East Broadway, will observe the following schedule this weekend.

-Friday, April 29th: The Cathedral will open at 10am. There will be a

Service at 7pm.

-Saturday, April 30th: There will be an Easter Vigil at 9:30pm.

-Easter/Pashka Sunday, May 1st: The Service will be at 11am.

Holy Trinity Church, located at 245 D Street will observe the following schedule.

Friday, April 29th: Church is open all day beginning at 8am. Great Vespers - 1pm. Praises - 7pm. 9am.

Saturday, April 30th: Vespers Divine Litturgy - 9am. Holy Communion given only during Litturgy. Pannychis - 11pm

Easter/Pashka Sunday, May 1st: Resurrection Service 12am. Divine Litturgy - 12:30am. Vesper of Love - 11am.

The Albanian Orthodox Churches welcome all to attend their activities and Services.

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768 East Fifth Street Three Family	\$1,450,000	3/16/16	17	3	4095
517-519 East Third Street Three Family	\$1,175,000	3/21/16	17	3	3249
225 Dorchester St UNIT 8 Condo	\$1,050,000	3/22/16	5	2.5	1919
192 Dorchester St UNIT 2 Condo	\$885,000	3/18/16	9	2	1850
835 East Fifth St UNIT 2 Condo	\$865,000	3/23/16	4	2.5	1300
13 Carpenter Street Three Family	\$860,000	3/18/16	15	3	2970
236-238 E Street Condo	\$775,000	3/16/16	13	3	2970
808 East Fifth St UNIT 3 Condo	\$736,000	3/18/16	4	2	1223
330 Dorchester St UNIT 4 Condo	\$599,000	3/16/16	4	1.5	1047
368 East Eighth Street Single Family	\$551,115	3/16/16	5	2	1206
100 Emerson St UNIT 3 Condo	\$483,500	3/17/16	6	1	897
108 I St UNIT 2 Condo	\$482,500	3/21/16	4	1	854
483 East Seventh St UNIT 1 Condo	\$436,000	3/17/16	4	2	880
161 I St UNIT 2 Condo	\$345,000	3/23/16	2	1	512



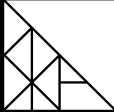
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30 Years



917 East Broadway, South Boston

617-268-5181



**BOSTON
REDEVELOPMENT
AUTHORITY**

**PUBLIC
MEETING**

815 EAST 5TH STREET DEVELOPMENT

MONDAY, MAY 9
6:30 PM - 8:00 PM

PROJECT PROPONENT:

815 East 5th Street, LLC


PROJECT DESCRIPTION:
Update the community on the Notice of Project Change from the developer's request to change the projects program from a residential rental project to a condominium project.


1163 COLUMBIA ROAD
*Curley Community Center,
Tenean Cafeteria
South Boston, MA 02127*

MAIL TO: **LANCE CAMPBELL**
Boston Redevelopment Authority
One City Hall Square, 9th Floor
Boston, MA 02201


PHONE: 617.918.4311

EMAIL: Lance.Campbell@boston.gov

 BostonRedevelopmentAuthority.org

 @BostonRedevelop

Teresa Polhemus, Executive Director/Secretary



Summer Vacation Home Rental

6 room, 3 bedroom log home. 1½ baths, all appliances, fully furnished, large open deck, screened porch, located in a wooded setting on a country road. 3 hour drive from Boston.

Walking distance to excellent lake swimming and in ground pool with lifeguards, fishing, basketball court, and hiking trails. Nearby easy drive attractions include, Golf, Tennis, Whale's Tale Water Park, Lost River and Clark's Trading Post plus many others.

Beautiful area with lots to do for any age group.

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White Mountain Region**

Bookings for:
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September

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Friday to Friday**

Call John at:
617-268-2324 or
email: jcsbic@hotmail.com

MAYOR RE-COMMITS TO DELIVER EXCEPTIONAL BASIC CITY SERVICES



Through his Fiscal Year 2017 (FY17) budget and capital plan proposal, Mayor Martin J. Walsh is continuing his commitment to delivering exceptional basic services to all of Boston's residents. The Mayor's Building a Better Boston capital plan increas-

es Boston's street resurfacing and sidewalk repair program by nearly \$4 million and bridge repair by over \$6 million.

"Through engaging with our residents, we know the importance of providing dependable basic services," said Mayor Walsh. "This additional funding will allow us to build on our success over the past two years of providing the highest quality of basic services and create cleaner, safer streets for our neighborhoods."

Last year, the Boston Public Works Department (PWD) paved 42 miles of roads, and the increased funding will increase the paving budget by a third.

Building on the nearly 100 miles of road work performed in the last two years, this funding will create more accessible sidewalks for pedestrians and smoother roads for drivers and cyclists along Boston's major arteries. Increased bridge funding will help prepare spans, such as the North Washing-

ton Street Bridge, for more comprehensive capital improvements.

This capital plan also invests \$66.7 million in the comprehensive redesign of squares, corridors and public spaces across the city. Examples of these planning, design and construction projects include East Boston's Central Square, the Commonwealth Avenue corridor in Brighton and Allston, Dudley Street in Roxbury, North Square in the North End, Quincy Street in Dorchester and Audubon Circle in the Fenway. Each project will help transform these areas reflecting the vision of the local community.

Go Boston 2030, Boston's comprehensive transportation planning effort, has revealed that one of the top priorities among residents is the delivery of basic services.

The launch of Boston 311 last year has also allowed the City of Boston to better understand what Boston residents want. The new modernized and efficient system

has allowed City of Boston employees to quickly respond to resident's requests and resolve issues

Boston 311 can be accessed anywhere within the City limits from both landlines and cell phones, and should only be used for non-emergencies. 311 will be available through several different platforms, including:

- Mobile: download the free BOS:311 app on iOS or Android (previously known as Citizens Connect)
- Online: Boston.gov/311
- Social media: tweet @BOS311
- Phone: dial 3-1-1 (previously the Mayor's 24-hour hotline 617-635-4500. For those with VoIP and for calls from outside Boston, callers should continue to dial 617-635-4500.)

As part of his budget proposal, the Mayor has also announced that starting in FY17, Boston 311 will reach even more residents by adding translators for six different languages.

RE-ZONING MEETING CONTINUED FROM front page

Andrew Square to St. Vinny's to Cityside Civic Associations were in attendance. It was an 'eclectic' mix of people according to one veteran community activist.

Mark McGonagle, BRA community liaison and the point person on the rezoning initiative, made the presentation, joined by other city officials including John Allison, Brian Norton, and Brian Glasscock, as well as other of the BRA brass. Also in the audience were representatives from the offices of local elected officials including Councilors Bill Linehan and Michael Flaherty, Rep. Nick Collins, Sen. Linda Forry, Congressman Stephen Lynch.

Mr. McGonagle referenced the process that resulted in the approval of Article 68 of the zoning ordinance relative to the industrial section of South Boston along

First Street. He had indicated that this new process would follow the similar path. One of the general goals of what was described as the 'front-loading' of these provisions to create an 'as of right' zoning process is to reduce or dramatically limit the need for local public abutter meetings. Some residents expressed the concern that it could amount to a pre-mature and unintended mitigation, or even relinquishment, of inherent property rights. He noted that Article 68 has remained intact, with no variances having been granted to date. Overhangs that appear along that corridor and others like L Street and several side streets were and issue raised and questioned as to their direct impact to open space and tree plantings.

After the initial presentation, the residents were asked to break up into groups that reflected their neighborhood and to fill out a

survey form that asked several questions relating to their opinion and preference regarding height, density and other pertinent zoning aspects. Maps and handouts that provided some visual context were helpful, but it was clear that more education and evaluation was the overall theme of the people who were there.

The projected September deadline for the finalization of the process and recommendations was met with concern and some skepticism, notwithstanding that the BRA expressed its own feeling that they have planned for sufficient public input. The general sense is that, after 50 years, extending it a few more weeks or months should not mitigate legitimate public digestion of and input into a major decision.

There was some sense from informal commentary being expressed after the meeting broke up that each of the sections had differing

opinions on height and density with those from City Point in particular being essentially happy with maintaining a height and density that precludes large scale developments. Other areas are looking to increase theirs, so that they may be able to expand for a growing family or add a rental unit for a family member or as a source of income to defray their living costs. Still others want to see provisions made for ensuring affordable housing, which was a missing element of the Article 68 process and outcome, despite the City's assurances that there would be so.

The community appreciates the openness of the process being conducted by McGonagle and his colleagues, but there is always a degree of skepticism when it gets down to the details at crunch time. Again, a third meeting will be advertised that will deal with setbacks and other limiting aspects of zoning. Stay tuned.

St Peter Academy

Where Learning Happens 12 Months A Year

**Open House Wednesday May 4
9-11 AM & 5-7 PM**

Would you like to see learning happening? Visit our school at 371 West Fourth Street and you will see students personally invested in their education and teachers creating meaningful interactions that empower students to think critically and communicate effectively.

St. Peter Academy is an independent private Early Childhood 18 months+ through Grade 8 school dedicated to providing a high quality education to children of all faiths and diverse socioeconomic backgrounds.

Teachers are engaged and regularly attend high quality professional development seminars in order to stay abreast of 'best practices in education' and deliver a continuum of rigorous and collaborative academic instruction. Parents are engaged as board members, advisors, event planners and classroom volunteers. Investment in STEM curriculum is already showing results. Technology and building upgrades are underway that are state of the art. The leadership of the school believes that the classroom is not the only learning venue. South Boston and Boston is rich with educational experiences

and we take advantage of it.

St Peter Academy expands its students learning experience beyond the traditional classroom and into the real worlds of the arts, marine environment, civic engagement, the physical sciences, business economics, urban design and more. From the South Boston Waterfront to the Museum of Fine Arts, St Peter Academy students and families realize the benefits of learning in an urban community.

Here are what parents are saying about St. Peter Academy:

"St. Peter's is more than a school to which we send our children. It's the village that's helping us as parents to raise children who are serious scholars, leaders, and citizens who are committed to the surrounding community. It's a vibrant, loving community where we know our children will be taught the tools to succeed in life with whatever challenges come their way. It's a community that builds confidence in abilities."

-Emily and James Condon, St. Peter's Parents

"I like that St. Peter Academy allows my children to grow and learn in a safe family environment that

encourages independence and responsibility for not only themselves but the society in which they live! The teachers at SPA take the time to be involved in their students' lives and encourage them in both individual school achievements and achievements outside of the classroom including sports and drama."

-Keri and Derek Baszkiewicz, St. Peter's Parents

"I really appreciate the small classroom size and family feeling from all the teachers, staff, and families of St. Peter Academy. As a mother of three, I appreciate that S.P.A. offers

an afterschool I can trust. I know my children are also getting a great education."

-Olga Markos, St. Peter's Mother

"I'm a mother of 2 children ages 12 and 14. We moved to South Boston from a large North Shore public school system to St Peter Academy in 2012. My son is currently in the 5th grade and has ADHD. The progress he has made in just the last 3 years here at St Peter Academy has changed his self-confidence and total attitude on learning. My daughter recently graduated the school from the 8th grade. I'm thrilled to say that she was accepted to her top choice private college preparatory high school in Boston. I feel that this is all due to her hard work and constant support and guidance of St Peter Academy school staff. I'm so grateful for the teachers, Principal and this great school family

that we have come to love."

-Sarah L., South Boston Resident & St Peter Academy Parent

"We love the individual attention our children receive in the small classroom environment and the close community feel of all grades Toddler through Grade 8. Their zero-tolerance to bullying approach is a big plus, which allows our children to focus on their education. And our teachers are second to none!"

-Kenny and Maria Blasi, St. Peter's Parents

We are a center of academic excellence, challenging our students to think critically and to consider multiple perspectives, focused on preparing our students for tomorrow's world. We serve a diverse population of students who live down the street, across town in Boston's neighborhoods and surrounding suburbs. We welcome students and families from all backgrounds and faiths.

We welcome the opportunity to have you visit St Peter Academy to see for yourself that ours is a unique and wonderful learning community. All are welcome at our Open House on Wednesday May 4 from 9:00-11:00 am and 5:00-7:00 pm or contact Mrs. Doreen Brown or Mrs. Maria Blasi to arrange a tour at 617-268-0750 or SPA@StPeterAcademy.com

The St Peter Academy Community is a place where our students and families are at the center of everything we do!

St. Peter Academy At A Glance

Serving students from Early Childhood 18 months old through Eighth Grade.

Early Childhood Classrooms – Two Teacher Co-Teaching Model and Opening the World of Learning and Eureka Math, Two Nationally Recognized Literacy, Math, Social Studies, Social Emotional Curricula, as well as Technology and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math).

Elementary & Middle School Curriculum – Our rigorous core curriculum is aligned with the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks and the National Common Core Standards and is enhanced with a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Math) Curriculum and computer based technology in every classroom.

Enrichment – Instruction in Visual, Dramatic & Music Arts; Nutrition & Fitness Classes; Technology Instruction; Student Government; Public Speaking; Writer's Workshop; Math Olympiad Competition; ISEE Prep Classes; BOKS Fitness Program; Girl Scouts; Academic & Cultural Field Trips; World Language (Spanish); Middle School Reflective Retreat; and Community Service.

- **School Day 7:50 am – 2:40 pm**
- **Before School Program 7:00 am**
- **Extended Day & Free After School Clubs 2:40 – 6:00 pm**
- **Summer Program 8:00 am – 6:00 pm**
- **Affordable Tuition With Multi Child Discounts**
- **Need Based Financial Aid**
- **Student Support Services To Enhance Student Strengths And Challenge Exemplary Learners**

St Peter Academy is recognized around the city for the quality of its graduates. Students have advanced to Boston Latin, Boston Latin Academy, Boston College High, Roxbury Latin, Thayer Academy, Catholic Memorial, Boston Arts Academy, Newman Boston, Fontbonne Academy, Saint Joseph Preparatory.

St Peter Academy - 371 West Fourth Street - South Boston MA 02127
617-268-0750 – SPA@StPeterAcademy.com – www.StPeterAcademy.com





The Senior Connection

By Lu O'Brien

Spring is definitely in the air (or is it?). The town is looking spring...new flowers...new grass...clean streets and clean sidewalks. More people going out for a walk or walking their dog. The weather is getting warmer. If you would like to apply for food stamps, Lorna Heron our advisor from city hall will come and fill out the application for you. All you need to bring is a copy of your income. Call me at 617-464-1910 if you are interested.

Blood Pressure Screenings for the month of April

April 28: The Msgr. Powers Apts. 120 L Street from 12:00-12:30

May 4: Foley Apts. 199 H Street from 12:00-12:30

May 5: Waterview Apts. 1350 Columbia Road from 11:30-12:00

May 11: SB Neighborhood House 136 H Street from 10:30-11:00

May 13: Curley Rec.Center 1663 Columbia Road from 11:30-12:00

May 18: The Flaherty Apts. 120 H Street from 10:30-11:00

May 19: Castle Cove Co-Op 225 W, 2nd Street from 12:00-12:30

The City Hall to Go Truck will be at the Condon School on Thursday, April 28 from 3:00-6:00 This is a wonderful service city hall is providing to the residents of Boston. You can do all your city business with this truck...it saves you a trip to city hall. Check it out!!!

Taxi Coupons for the month of April

April 28: WB Task Force 135 Orton Marotta Way from 10:00-10:30

May 4: SB Neighborhood House 136 H Street from 10:00-12:00

May 4: W. 9th Street Development 185 W. 9th Street from 1:00-1:30

May 10: Carson Towers 1410 Columbia Road from 10:00-10:30

May 10: Maryellen McCormack Development from 1:30-2:00

May 11: Msgr. Powers Apts. 120 L Street from 11:00-11:30

May 11: Waterview Apts. 1350 Columbia Road from 12:30-1:30

If this is your first time buying coupons, just bring some form of ID with your birth year on it. The cost is \$10.00 for two (2) books. Coupons are always available at the Elderly Commission at city hall, room 217

SENIORS BEWARE...I have heard there is a group of people going around Southie out to scam our seniors. They claim that they can lower your electric bill. They have no ID's and they will say they are working with Eversource. Not true... Right now they are targeting the senior developments. Seniors of Southie...be smart. Do not open your door to these people. If you live in one of the senior developments, do not buzz these people inside. Once they get into the building they will come and knock on your door...do not open your door. They are trouble. Look in the peep hole on the door to make sure you know who you are going to open the door for. If you do get one of these people at your home, call the police right away. Same with seniors who are in your own home...put the slide lock on your door if you have one in case they push the door and knock you down to the floor. These people are no good

and want to hurt you. Be careful!!!!

FRIENDLY REMINDERS:

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

Sorry to say that I cannot accept the regular walkers anymore due to the high demand for rollators. Commodes and toilet seat risers have to be clean before I accept them. Thank you!!!

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. Fair shoes is still on hold. I will let you know when it will start again.

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.

Free & Reduced Cost Food Options In South Boston

St. Monica's Food Pantry 617-268-1230

331 Old Colony Ave.

Every 2nd & 4th Wednesday of the month from 1:00-3:00pm

Requirements: Proof of South Boston residency with an ID or a bill in your name.

People are asked to stay within the boundaries of this food pantry. Thank you!!

St. Vincent DePaul Parish Food Pantry 617-268-8100

363 E Street

Every Thursday from 1:00-3:00pm

Requirements: Proof of Boston Residency with an ID or mail in your name.

People are asked to stay within the boundaries of this food pantry. Thank you!!

Fourth Presbyterian Church 617-268-1281

340 Dorchester Street

Every 2nd & 4th Tuesday of each month from 8:00-11:00am

South Boston Community Health Center

617-464-7482

409 W. Broadway

Tuesday & Wednesday from 10:00am-2:00pm

Requirements: Must be a patient of the South Boston Community Health Center

BINGO!!!

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

Mark your calendar for flea market at Castle Co-op on Saturday, April 30, 2016 from 11:00-3:00. There will be very nice items...items that still have some life in them...reasonably priced...refreshments will be served at a small cost. Use the Bolton Street side, there are no stairs.

The senior discounts will be published on the first of month. This way you can cut it out of the paper and hang it on your fridge...sounds like a plan to me!!!

My name is Lu O'Brien...I can be reached at 617-464-1910...leave me a message and I will get back to you as soon as I can...I am in and out of my office all the time...why??? because I am taking care of the seniors of Southie!!!

Have a wonderful week...



1st Annual Tynan Wiffleball Tournament and Cookout: Talent on Display

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY - By Staff

Last Thursday, the Boston Center for Youth and Families (BCYF), Tynan held its first annual wiffleball tournament at the Tynan School. It

was the peak of the April School vacation and John Lydon and the great staff at the Tynan made sure it went off with a bang.

Eight talented teams; three players per team ranging in age from 12 -16 years old went head to head in a battle that thrilled the crowd of spectators on hand. The weather cooperated with sunny skies and warm temperatures; a perfect day for a tournament. When the finals were over, it was the orange team that claimed the title but all players on every squad had a great time.

In addition to the fine athletic talent on display, some of the tastiest burgers and hot dogs that could be found anywhere were served up free of charge to players and spectators alike.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 15



Where to Use and Not Use Your Barbecue Grill

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY - By Staff

Everyone knows that we are well into spring and will soon be deep into the summer season and the usual summertime activities are going strong. One of the greatest pleasures in the warm months is of course the fine art of grilling or barbecuing. South Boston Today has received several inquiries by residents about what the rules are within the city limits as far as where grills are legally allowed to be used and where they are prohibited. In response, we did some checking and with the help of some neighbors, a post by Mr. Roy E. Rider and city officials we obtained the info some

of you have been curious about.

No one here at SBT is trying to tell you where or how to use your grill; that's not for us to decide, but here are the restrictions you should be aware of. And the reason for concern is that there have been incidents of grills causing fires over the years here in the neighborhood. We live in the city and the houses are close together. An out of control grill fire could cause not only a tragedy to the people using the grills but to surrounding homes as well.

(The following does not apply to the use and storage of Natural Gas grills permitted through ISD and installed by a licensed installer in accordance with proper codes and

standards but does apply to the standard type charcoal and LP (propane) grills commonly used.)

Charcoal Grills: These are not allowed to be used on top of or within a building or a structure per order of the Boston Fire Dept.

LP (propane) Grills: City of Boston regulations prohibits the use and storage of the propane tanks or containers inside or on balconies above the first floor of any building or structure used for habitation. Also on first floor porches, decks or balconies enclosed by a roof/ceiling or other confining materials and never on fire escapes or fire escape balconies.

Boston Fire Department officials

urge all to keep grills clean for safety reasons.

Well readers, these are the rules put forth by the city that some of you have been asking about. Do with this information what you wish but please, by all means, this spring and summer when using your grills; do so carefully for your own personal safety, the safety of your family and guests and for your surrounding neighbors as well.

(To view, in detail the rules and regulations and for safety tips to consider when barbecuing, you can log onto the Boston Fire Department web page at www.cityofboston/fire and go to the link titled 'Barbecue Safety Info'.)

Park Serve Day

Department of Conservation and Recreation, Massachusetts State Parks

Farragut Park & Pleasure Bay

April 30, 2016

10:00am - 1:00pm

Volunteers will meet at Murphy Rink to help clean the park and beaches along Marine Park and Pleasure Bay to get the summer season off on the right foot!

This event is sponsored by the Department of Conservation and Recreation in conjunction with State Senator Linda Dorcea Forny and State Representative Nick Collins. All are welcome!

Lend a hand during this day of statewide volunteer service at Massachusetts state parks. We'll be working together to get forests, parks and beaches ready for summer at more than 35 project locations statewide.

For more information or to discuss any special accommodations or needs you may have for the day, please email mass.parks@state.ma.us. Register to volunteer at www.mass.gov/dcr/.

**Pick a Park, Give a Day,
Make a Difference**

Follow Us on Twitter @MassDCR

Coming Event



**Skate Park Study
Community Meeting:
South Boston
Thursday, May 5,
6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Condon Community
Center 200 D Street,
South Boston**

The Boston Parks and Recreation Department and the Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services invite the public to an information gathering meeting for skate facilities within the City of Boston and the South Boston neighborhood. The information gathered in this meeting will be incorporated into a study on the feasibility of providing skate facilities in the City of Boston. For further information, please call (617) 961-3019.

**BOSTON SHINES
CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE 8**

The initiative will take place over the span of three weekends, and will focus on four service areas: physical service, university engagement, youth development and expanding City of Boston volunteer opportunities that help unite neighbors and communities. Through Boston Shines, Mayor Walsh seeks to increase volunteerism and civic engagement across the city, improve the quality of life for all Boston residents, and help demonstrate the City's solidarity working together to make one Boston.

Representatives from the Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services will call upon residents to help bring vibrancy back to the parks, sidewalks, school yards, and streets. Brooms, shovels, and other tools will be provided by the City for clean-up in the identified neighborhoods.

This year, Boston Shines will take place over three weekends in April and May:

- The first weekend, April 22 and 23, will take place in Jamaica Plain, Hyde Park, Roslindale, Roxbury, West Roxbury, Fenway, Mission Hill and Mattapan.
- The second weekend, April 29 and 30, will take place in Bay Village, Downtown, Chinatown, Beacon Hill, Back Bay, South End and South Boston.
- The third weekend, May 6 and 7, will take place in Allston, Brighton, Dorchester, West End, Charlestown, East Boston and the North End.

Individuals, Groups, and Organizations can sign up now at the following link:

<http://www.cityofboston.gov/ons/bostonshines/register.asp>

George LoCascio, Naturalist, At The Gibbons Lecture May 5 at the Library

“A Beautiful Dismissal: The Unnoticed Nature of South Boston”

is the title of this year's Gibbons Lecture, which will be held on Thursday, May 5 at 6:30 p.m. at the South Boston Branch Library, 646 East Broadway. Our speaker will be South Boston naturalist George LoCascio, who will discuss his Wildflowers of South Boston Survey, which was inspired by the tenacity and resourcefulness of the city's most under-appreciated residents: the wide variety of weedy plants that set their roots in the concrete jungle

. George's survey, conducted over several months, identifies wildflower species in four different areas around South Boston. He calls attention to the remarkable plants that thrive in heavily human-impacted habitats, in the hope of fostering an appreciation for the patches of nature we can discover and explore right here in Southie.

The Wildflowers of South Boston Survey Exhibit is now on view at the branch. This program is co-sponsored by the Friends of the South Boston Branch and is open to all adults. Refreshments will be served. We hope to see you there!



Southie Mites Champions Take the Championship

South Boston came out on top in Mayor Martin J. Walsh's Mayor's Cup Street Hockey Tournament held during the April school vacation week. Shown celebrating their Mite Division win at Ryan Playground in Charlestown are (back row) James Baker, Pat Woods, Coach Bobby McGarrell, Ryan Alexander and (front row) Michael Curry, Ben Deardon, Ryan McGarrell, and Michael Greene.

THE TYNAN
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

And the sense of community was prevalent this day which made the whole event even better. And there was a tournament mascot as well. Looking cute as a button and happy to be part of the action was Lefty the Beagle who was unanimously given the title of tournament mascot. With tail wagging constantly

throughout, he was the frosting on a perfect day. How can you not love a Beagle?

Again, John Lydon and the BCYF staff are to be commended for putting together a fantastic tournament. Their organizational skills were obvious throughout. With a success like this there is sure to be future tournaments in the not too distant future.

CICCONE
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

overdose death of a close friend's young son stated the obvious. "The heroine is just flooding over the Mexican border. The feds know it and even Boston law enforcement brass know it and have said so in public. Yet, those in Washington have thrown wide open the border and will actually punish border patrol agents if they try to do their job securing the border. Is there no one with the courage to put a stop to this? How many more people have to die? Do those in power want every kid in America addicted?" Strong words but right to the point and the facts, the data and statistics back those concerns up completely.

On the local level; we are witnessing this neighborhood quickly being gobbled up and remade into something that few people can afford to live in. Also, on the local level and nationally too, we are watching the social fabric of the greatest nation in the world being rotted away by an out of control drug scourge allowed to continue by those in power who know where it comes from but will do little to stop it. Add to this, we have far too many politicians on the city, state and federal levels who have allowed themselves to be intimidated and bullied by liberal activists into going along with a constant chipping away of our cherished traditions, no matter how crazy or even freakish the demands of the activists may be.

If ever there was an election vital to preserving the America our Founding Fathers created for us, it's this one coming up in November, 2016.

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Barlow's Restaurant
241 A Street
Boston, MA 02210
617-338-2142



Stephi's in Southie
130 Dorchester Avenue
South Boston, MA 02127
617-345-5495



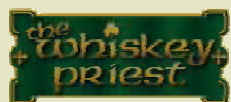
Lincoln Tavern & Restaurant
425 West Broadway
Boston, MA 02127
617-765-8636



Lucky's Lounge
355 Congress Street
Boston, MA 02210
617-357-LUCK



Atlantic Beer Garden
146 Seaport Boulevard
Boston, MA 02210
617-357-8000



The Whiskey Priest
150 Northern Avenue
Boston, MA 02210
617-426-8114



The Playwright
658 East Broadway
South Boston, MA 02127
617-269-2537



Empire Restaurant & Lounge
One Marina Park Drive
Boston, MA 02201
617-295-0001



Jerry Remy's Seaport
250 Northern Avenue
Boston, MA 02210
617-856-7369



Boston Beer Garden
732 East Broadway
South Boston, MA 02127
617-269-0990

TWO OPTICIANS

Two Opticians
394 West Broadway
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