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South Boston is a BRA planner’s playground with a major re-zoning affecting living space options in South Boston Proper, waterfront projects continuously seeking to exceed height dimensions, cruise port and marine industrial park transformations that seek to expand the definitions of maritime uses and a growth corridor that seems to encroach on areas outside of the transportation spur it’s to be designed along. The BRA has produced a draft plan that is so comprehensive as to suggest an entire new neighborhood

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# EDITORIAL

## “V. A. Disneyland”

SBT - By Brian R. Mahoney

**W**hile it's true this week's issue has an abundance of Veteran's related topics, sometimes it can't be helped. Especially during Armed Forces Appreciation Week. The idiotic remarks by the Veteran's Administration Director proves that there can never be too much attention paid to the ongoing treatment of our Veterans.

If we remember back a year or so ago, the breaking scandal of

months long waiting for a doctor's appointment at V. A. facilities caused outrage. So much so that the V. A. Director was replaced. Now our newest clueless Director is comparing the situation to waiting in line at Disneyland. The Director thinks the emphasis should be on the results at the end of the wait, and not the wait itself. As if the experience of “Magic Mountain” is comparable to a long delayed diagnosis.

The Director should be aware that nobody is dying, while waiting for the “Magic Mountain” ride. A claim the V. A. cannot match.



*“The willingness of our veterans to sacrifice for our country has earned them our eternal gratitude” - Jeffrey Miller*



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# The Information Center



## And Now Even the Trees In Our National Parks Are Racist.

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY

John Ciccone

*Note: talk back to John Ciccone by email at [jciccone@southbostontoday.com](mailto:jciccone@southbostontoday.com)*

This week's column will touch on a few of the hot topics of the week around the country that have piqued people's interest. Let's start with the entertainer/singer known as 'Beyoncé. Boy is she ever ticked off. In response to her anti-police/pro Black Lives Matter show that she put on at this year's Super Bowl, cops in Pittsburgh are refusing to work overtime at her upcoming concert in that city. There will be on duty police officers there as security, but at Beyoncé concerts since the Super Bowl, there is always the potential for trouble. She's not so popular anymore. She's ticked off about that too.

Officers who usually jump at the chance in Pittsburgh to work what is called in that town 'Voluntary Sec-

ondary Employment' for a good chunk of extra cash would rather turn the money down to make a point and show their disapproval of her anti-police statements. The promoters of the show found themselves in a bind, fearful that there just won't be enough protection for the hate-mongering performer. News reports say Beyoncé is 'outraged and furious'. Too bad. It brings to mind that old saying "What goes around comes around". Could this be classified as Karma?

In the 'Just when we thought they couldn't get any loonier' category, can you guess what the latest things to be proclaimed as racist by nutty progressives are? Here's a hint, they are tall, sturdy and covered with vegetation. That's correct – they now in-

sist TREES are racist; particularly the trees in America's national parks. This latest announcement comes from Mr. Mickey Fearn, National Park Service Deputy Director for Communications and Community Assistance and a certified card carrying liberal Obama disciple. Ok, now here's the reasoning behind Mr. Fearn's proclamation. "African Americans feel safe in cities, but less safe in nature. Preserving wild spaces is a white people's concept, going back to the Romans. These trees remind black people of lynching, therefore, the trees are racist." Yes, folks, he really said this.

Moving on: Many saw the results of a recent survey of Native Americans/American Indians. Those results have 'libs' in the media froth-

ing at the mouth. It seems that 90% of Native Americans have no problem with and are not offended by the Name 'Red Skins'; referring to Washington DC's professional NFL football team or by the logo on the uniforms. This revelation has caused those in the media, college professors, many Democrat politicians and some Hollywood actors to go into near meltdown. You see, up to now, these molders of public opinion have insisted that the Washington Redskins team name and logo was offensive to Native Americans. But apparently, they never bothered to ask many of them about it. Some news anchors on MSNBC are even chastising and scolding Native Ameri-

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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.

### The most powerful military officer in the world returns to BC High

How's this for a high school graduation speaker: The Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff of the United States military. Boston College High School nabbed him as its speaker over the weekend. But they had a small advantage: Gen. Joseph F. Dunford Jr. is a BC High alum, reports the Patriot Ledger's Liam Hofmeister at Wicked Local. Still, it was impressive.

### Baker plans crackdown on state sick-time buybacks

Saying that sick-time buybacks are "not a retirement bonus," Gov. Charlie Baker is planning to push legislation that cracks down on huge payouts for unused sick-time

claimed by state workers as they retire and start collecting pensions, the Herald's Jaclyn Cashman reports. The administration's legislation, called "An Act to Reform Sick Time," would cap the amassing of sick time for state employees in the executive branch at 1,000 hours. About 5,800 employees will be grandfathered.

"Sick leave is a benefit designed to offer employees a way to deal with health and family issues, not a retirement bonus," Baker said in a statement. "Bringing the commonwealth's sick leave accrual policy in line with other private and public sector employers just makes sense and is the fiscally responsible thing to do."

### Senate seeks to expand low-income tax credit

In one of hundreds of amendments tacked onto its budget proposal, the Massachusetts Senate is seeking to expand the earned income tax credit for a second straight year, Christian Wade reports in the Gloucester Times. A bill signed by Gov. Baker last year expanded the credit from 15 to 23 percent of income and some Democrats are now leading a charge to boost that to 30 percent.

### In Dorchester, no shine off Walsh image

Phillip Martin of WGBH followed Boston Mayor Marty Walsh to his weekend fundraiser at a Dorchester union hall and found support for the mayor remains steadfast despite some high-profile stumbles and the indictment of his tourism chief on extortion charges. Said one union member: "Anytime he wants my vote he'll get my vote."

### Weekend polls: It's a dead heat between Clinton and Trump

One wonders what supporters of Bernie Sanders are thinking when they see the latest presidential polls showing Democrat Hillary Clinton and Republican Donald Trump in a statistical dead heat. They might be thinking, 'Hey, our guy can do better against Trump.' Or perhaps they have a pang of guilt and wonder if they're helping Trump at the expense of Clinton. Unfortunately for Clinton, the almost guaranteed Dem nominee, it's undoubtedly the former. Anyway, here's a summary of the most recent survey stats from Slate's Daniel Politi:

"Hillary Clinton's once-comfortable advantage over Donald Trump appears to have vanished, according to the latest polls. In the NBC News/Wall Street Journal poll, Clinton continues to hold the lead over Trump by 3 points—46 percent to 43 percent—but that is

within the survey's margin of error of plus-or-minus 3.1 percentage points. And it is a far cry from the 11-point advantage Clinton had over Trump in April. Things are flipped in the latest Washington Post/ABC News poll that shows Trump on top by 2 points—46 percent to 44 percent—and that is also well within the margin of error. That poll also shows how voters appear to be warming to Trump, as his support amounts to an 11-point gain in support since March. In contrast, Bernie Sanders leads Trump by a much more comfortable margin: 54 percent to 39 percent, according to the NBC/WSJ poll. "

### Worcester express has hopes high in Central Mass.

The MBTA rolls out its new commuter rail schedule today, including the debut of the Worcester-to-Boston express train, known as the Heart To Hub. That new option has residents and political leaders alike hopeful that the 1-hour ride will help boost the central Massachusetts city's economic fortunes by making it possible for people to more quickly commute from Worcester to Boston, Cyrus Moulton of the Telegram reports. "This is really making the city of Worcester more attractive to younger people," said Lt. Gov. Karyn Polito.

### Lawmakers unveil stronger public-records measure

After months of conference-committee negotiations, legislators are finally ready to pass a new bill that would strengthen the state's "much-maligned" public records laws, reports Joshua Miller of the Globe. Among other things, the proposed legislation would allow judges to force state agencies, cities, and towns to pay legal fees if a court found they inappropriately withheld public records, Miller

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# Reading Between The Lines

## “Retirement”

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY  
Brian R. Mahoney

Note: talk back to Brian by email at [bmahoney@southbostontoday.com](mailto:bmahoney@southbostontoday.com)

I’ve decided to retire from writing around the end of the summer. After all, there are just going to be too many opportunities to make some easy money around that time. We’ve all seen or, (at least some) have even experienced the horror show that’s taking place at airports all across the nation. Think of how much money the person who comes up with a solution could make.

Say hi to the new “Daddy Warbucks”. “Nude Airways”! That’s what I have in mind for a new airline. Passengers enter a room, are given a private cubicle and a plastic laundry-style basket (with cover) to put their clothes in. To keep things interesting a hospital “johnnie” will be issued to each passenger. Everything is x-rayed and put in the cargo hold, as are the passengers. Except the passengers are not put in the cargo hold, just x-rayed. When the destination is reached the process is reversed. All the waiting and checking is eliminated. Simply strip, put on your “johnnie” and away you go.

Which creates the second opportunity. Designer “johnnies”. Black silk with monograms? Perhaps tassels or sparkles for the ladies? We may have to ban anything sheer though. My company can corner the market and clean up. An entire line of “johnnies” accessories, hats, clogs, knee socks will spring up.

Finally, third and most importantly, are the passengers. Like anything new, some brave souls with an adventurous spirit have

to step forward to convince the traveling public what a great idea this is. Where to find such stand up, courageous people? Where would you look? Where else, indeed, but Hollywood. Sean “El Chapo” Penn and Megan “I Hate Christians” Fox are just the tip of the vast army of Hollywood heroes, who have vowed to give up their high-walled secured estates for the wild woods of Canada, if Donald Trump becomes President - not to mention hordes of lesser known “progressives”.

As soon as President Trump raises his hand to take the Oath of Office, “Nude Airways” switchboard will light up. We’ll be counting on such a rush that all the private Lear jets will be gone so quickly that the Hollywood heroes will have to share space on our converted Fed-Ex cargo planes with the “occupy hoi polloi”. We’ll accommodate them all. Squeeze every last one of them on board and keep doing it until every last one of them is gone.

If they don’t want to be here, it would be a public or humanitarian service to make them gone. It would be the Christian thing to do. A big sign will be hung over each of the departure gates saying, “Thank You For Leaving On Nude Airways, Don’t Let the Airplane Door Hit You on the Back Side, Especially Wearing That Johnnie”

An undertaking like this will, of course, take a large amount of financing - private financing. This is why, at a later date, an announcement will be made when “Nude Airways” is avail-

able for sale to the public. A private non-scientific group, “Cicccone and Mahoney”, have conducted a study with startling results. 10 out of 10 people interviewed said they would gladly pay to get rid of - I mean assist - some of those unhappy folks, who dislike being in America. Some folks have even volunteered to drive. Some others, who are not even pilots, have suggested various methods of flight that could be used to transport these travelers that

does not involve airplanes.

In any event, there seems no end to the helpful people, who want to assist in this effort. So, selling stock in the company to do it will be a breeze. What could be better than investing in a “good deed”, getting your investment back and making a few bucks extra? So look for the stock sale announcement.

In the meantime, until retirement, these hard hitting stories will keep coming. Finally, thanks for taking the time to read.

**Take care till next week.**

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## Hoverboards Not Allowed on the MBTA

**E**ffective immediately, hoverboards are prohibited on all MBTA property, including stations, buses, subways, trains, and commuter boats.

MBTA subway and bus personnel, along with Keolis Commuter Rail staff have been informed that customers with hoverboards shall not be permitted to bring such devices into MBTA stations and onboard MBTA vehicles. There are no exceptions.

Due to a string of recent injuries, fires and explosions associated with hoverboards nationwide, the MBTA conducted an assessment of the devices and determined that they are a safety risk. As a result, they are banned from MBTA property. The assessment incorporated findings, recommendations, and corrective actions that are in line with other transit systems throughout the country.

Hoverboards can catch fire. Failures in the Lithium-ion battery that powers such devices are the root cause of the self-combusting fires. Battery failures are caused by issues ranging from external abuse to cell manufacturing. Currently, there are no safety standards regulating the design and manufacturing of these devices in the

United States. MBTA rules do not allow articles of an inflammable or explosive nature to be carried into any station or into or upon any passenger vehicle.

A potential fire ignited by a hoverboard can expose customers to smoke and toxic gas, which can result in injury or death. They also increase the risk of personal injury to riders due to falls, collisions, as well as the possibility of falling into the train pit.

Transit authorities in New York, California, and Chicago, in addition to major domestic airlines have restricted customers from boarding their systems with hoverboards. MBTA personnel and MBTA Police will inform customers of the ban if they are found on MBTA property with the devices in their possession, and will enforce the ban as needed. Placards and signs to notify the public about the ban on hoverboards on MBTA vehicles and in stations – such as the example below – will be posted at appropriate locations throughout the T's transit system in the coming weeks. In addition, the MBTA today is using its 80 digital panels and social media beginning today to inform riders about this prohibition.

## Massport Posts “No Drone Zone” Signs in Local Parks

**A**s a community education service to promote drone safety, the Massachusetts Port Authority (Massport) is installing “No Drone Zone” signs in the green space it owns and operates in East Boston and South Boston. Locations include Bremen Street Park, Festa Field, Neptune Road Buffer and Piers Park in East Boston, Maritime Park and the Cruiseport Harborwalk in South Boston.

Drone use has surged in the past year, with more than 325,000 drones registered with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) as of February 2016. The FAA has implemented regulations surrounding drones, or Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) including the following:

- No drone may fly within 5 miles of an airport without notifying the airport operator or control tower;
- Drones must be flown below 400 ft. and kept within your line of site;
- Reckless drone usage can result in fines;
- If your drone is over .55 lbs., it must be registered with the FAA. This registration costs \$5 and is valid for 3 years;



- Your registration number must be visible on your drone.

For more information visit [www.faa.gov/uas](http://www.faa.gov/uas) or [www.knowbeforeyoufly.org](http://www.knowbeforeyoufly.org). Register your drone today at [registermyuas.faa.gov](http://registermyuas.faa.gov).

The Massachusetts Port Authority (Massport) owns and operates Boston Logan International Airport, public terminals in the Port of Boston, Hanscom Field, and Worcester Regional Airport. Massport is a financially self-sustaining public authority whose premier transportation facilities generate more than \$15 billion annually, and enhance and enable economic growth and vitality in New England. No state tax dollars are used to fund operations or capital improvements at Massport facilities. For more information, please visit [massport.com](http://massport.com).

### WINDOW INTO STATEHOUSE CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

reports. “This bill will add considerable freedom of information to Massachusetts and make for more openness and accountability in government,” said Pam Wilmot, head of Common Cause Massachusetts. “It’s a very strong bill.” But cities and towns are worried they may become overburdened with public-record requests if the bill is enacted, says Geoffrey C. Beckwith, executive director of the Massachusetts Municipal Association.

### Hydro and wind power: You know; you can have both

The Globe had an editorial over the weekend that makes perfect sense to most people, but apparently not to others, including some environmentalists pushing

hard for wind power:

“It’s unfortunate that hydro and wind have been pitted against each other when either would provide major environmental benefit compared to the current overreliance on natural gas. Indeed, the power grid of the future needs to involve both (as is so often pointed out, the wind doesn’t always blow). The fact of the matter is that right now only hydro can meet the state’s goals on the state’s timeline. But the state will need wind, too, so farsighted legislation would provide for both.”

It’s true: You really can have both hydro and wind at the same time. Hydro and wind are not incompatible. They complement each other, even if some critics of hydro strain to obscure this point.



## Memorial Day: A Time to Mourn, Remember and Pray

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY - By Edward Flynn, U.S. Navy (Retired)

This past Sunday, members and volunteers from the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), Thomas J. Fitzgerald Post #561 of South Boston, visited several cemeteries throughout Boston to place American flags in front of each headstone of a military veteran. This

time honored tradition, ensures each veteran is remembered and honored, as we also reflect on Memorial Day in our country.

We were touched to see the determination of Sister Lois Connors and Sister Florence Kahler (Sisters of Saint Joseph), join other volunteers in

walking the hallowed grounds of New Calvary Cemetery in Mattapan and St. Joseph Cemetery in West Roxbury, seeking the names of veterans to properly place an American flag at the gravesite. Other post volunteers also visited Cedar Grove Cemetery in Dorchester to remember and pray for our fallen heroes at that site. As we passed the grave (at New Calvary Cemetery) of U.S. Army Private First Class Michael J. Perkins, of South Boston, a Medal of Honor recipient, for actions in World War I, we said a silent prayer to the incredible sacrifice he made for our nation. As we prayed and remembered him and other fallen heroes, we could also hear the beautiful sounds of the bagpipe throughout the air performed by Michael Casper, a volunteer at the post.

Memorial Day, a somber day of remembrance, is a day we reflect and pray for our war dead. We also remember the families of these fallen heroes and their loved ones. These fallen veterans are remembered for their heroism, duty to country and sacrifice. These heroes are also a son or daughter, a brother or sister, a husband or wife, a friend and

neighbor. They are never forgotten by a grateful nation. Across our country and here in South Boston, people will pause on this sacred day: In silent remembrance, to mourn, remember, honor, to pray and to shed a tear for those who sacrificed their life in defense of our country. As a nation, we also are determined and resolved that their sacrifice will always be remembered.

Additionally, on Sunday, May 29th, the members and volunteers of our post cordially invite you to join us as we honor our fallen heroes in our annual Memorial Day ceremony, as we march from the post to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial at Medal of Honor Park at 9am. Post members will then lay a wreath of remembrance at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. For additional details of Sunday's service, please contact (617) 820 – 8571.

Note: The members of the Thomas J. Fitzgerald Post #561 would like to thank the volunteers who joined us this week to make this event possible as well as the van driver and owners of the Southie Shuttle for generously providing courtesy transportation.

## In South Boston, Memorial Day Is Special

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY - By the Entire South Boston Today Team

What special meaning and significance the Memorial Day weekend holds for people would probably depend on who you asked. Surely, it signals what many consider the unofficial start to the summer season. Weather permitting, folks look forward to it as a time to maybe get away for the long weekend on a trip to the beach or the mountains. Back yard family barbecues and cook-outs are always popular as are gatherings with friends for parties etc. Perhaps you'll stay local and relax at home and catch a game or two on TV and enjoy that much deserved extra day off on Monday.

To a lot of South Bostonians, it could be one or more of the above. To us, and people who live in other traditional, what

most would consider patriotic, communities around the country, it means all of the above, but something else as well. It means something far more important than our own personal creature comforts and fun.

Memorial Day is set aside to remember and to honor America's heroes who served in our country's armed forces and put their lives on the line and often lost those lives so that all of us could enjoy the freedom and liberty that our Nation's Founding Fathers envisioned for us when they drew up that amazing document called the Constitution of the United States. South Boston has many sons and daughters who never returned from fighting our country's battles. On a per capita scale, there may not be another community anywhere

that had more. Many people will this weekend make that solemn journey to a cemetery where a family member is buried and lay a wreath or flowers at a grave site. Others will attend a special Church Service, proudly display Old Glory or attend a Memorial Day dedication or parade.

All the other activities that come with warm weather and sunshine are part of the tradition as well of course. But as Americans, at least in the opinion of South Bostonians, remembering and honoring our veterans; especially those who are no longer among us should always remain the most important reason for this holiday. We owe it to those heroes to never forget the sacrifices made on our behalf. It makes us proud that so many of our neighbors never have and never will.





# Smith family Foundation Donates \$3M to Martin W. Richard Park

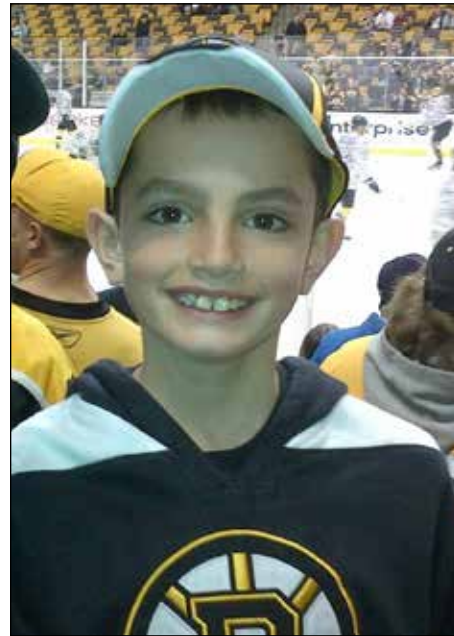
Mayor Martin J. Walsh announced this week that the Richard and Susan Smith Family Foundation will make a \$3 million gift for the park being constructed along South Boston's Fort Point Channel in honor of Martin W. Richard, the youngest victim of the Boston Marathon bombings.

"We are deeply honored to help bring this gift of a world-class park to Boston in memory of Martin Richard," said Susan Smith, co-chair of the Richard and Susan Smith Family Foundation. "Martin's Park at the Smith Family Waterfront will transform an underutilized public space into a vibrant, universally accessible park and playground that we hope will delight children and families for

generations to come."

Martin's Park at the Smith Family Waterfront is currently being designed by the landscape architecture firm Michael Van Valkenburgh & Associates, who also designed the Smith Family Waterfront Plaza in front of the Boston Children's Museum, Maggie Daley Park in Chicago, and Brooklyn Bridge Park in New York. A fundraising effort is currently underway for the park, which is expected to be fully designed in 2016 and constructed in 2017.

"Martin's message of peace and love of life serves as an inspiration for all of us," said Mayor Walsh. "I thank all of our partners who have contributed to this important initiative, and especially the Richard family, whose strength and commitment to bettering our community



exemplifies the spirit of our city."

Additional sponsors include P&G Gillette, Fidelity Investments, Mayo Capital Partners LLC, John Hancock Financial, Highland Street Foundation, the Connors Family Foundation, Sherry and Allan Leventhal Foundation, and the Martin W. Richard Charitable Foundation.

The project address is 64 Sleeper Street located between Seaport Boulevard and Boston Children's Museum, just south of the Moakley Bridge on Fort Point Channel. The design, construction and maintenance endowment of this universally accessible park is estimated to cost \$10 million.

The parcel is currently under the ownership of the MBTA which will transfer ownership to the Boston Parks and Recreation Department with long term maintenance of the park supported by a maintenance endowment. The MBTA will perform remediation work by the start of park construction and

will ensure project compliance with all DEP regulations.

"We are honored to make this land available and be a part of this wonderful new space where children, their families and the people of Boston can honor the life of a truly remarkable child," said Governor Charlie Baker. Additional City-owned property will be assembled to establish the permanent park boundary for the nearly one-acre park.

The youngest victim of the Boston Marathon bombings, Martin Richard was eight years old. In the days after the attack, a photo of Martin holding a handmade poster that read "No more hurting people. Peace" was shared over the Internet and made many see Martin as a symbol of peace. This gesture of love came to define Boston's response to the bombings and inspired the work of the One Fund and One Boston Day. Martin's message continues to be an active catalyst of change for Bostonians and beyond.

**About The Richard and Susan Smith Family Foundation** ([www.smithfamilyfoundation.net](http://www.smithfamilyfoundation.net))

The Richard and Susan Smith Family Foundation is committed to effecting permanent positive change in the lives of the residents of Greater Boston, particularly individuals and families in economically disadvantaged communities. Today, three generations of the Smith family oversee the Foundation, stewarding nearly \$15 million annually in grants aimed at promoting greater health, educational attainment, and economic mobility.

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# MAY 25



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# Recent South Boston Real Estate Sales

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642 East Third St UNIT 3 Condo	\$920,000	4/8/16	5	2	1603
141 West Second St UNIT 201 Condo	\$858,000	4/1/16	4	2	1327
225 Dorchester St UNIT 22 Condo	\$795,000	4/1/16	4	2	1650
225 Dorchester St UNIT 20 Condo	\$784,000	4/14/16	4	2	1460
225 Dorchester St UNIT 18 Condo	\$770,000	4/1/16	4	2	1500
206-208 West Ninth St UNIT 2 Condo	\$715,000	4/1/16	5	2	1448
443 East Seventh St UNIT 1 Condo	\$645,000	4/11/16	7	2	1686
20 Winfield St UNIT 2 Condo	\$639,000	4/6/16	5	2	1024
366 West Second St UNIT 4 Condo	\$628,000	4/5/16	4	1.5	866
307 Silver Street Single Family	\$610,000	4/15/16	6	2	1080
21 Wormwood St UNIT 307 Condo	\$610,000	4/11/16	2	1	774
171 M St UNIT 2 Condo	\$599,900	4/8/16	6	1	1640
39 Gates St UNIT 3 Condo	\$589,000	4/15/16	5	2	934
269 K St UNIT 1 Condo	\$560,000	4/5/16	4	2	1259
529 East Eighth St UNIT 1 Condo	\$555,000	4/14/16	4	2	959
39 Gates St UNIT 2 Condo	\$549,000	4/15/16	5	2	832
150 H St UNIT 1 Condo	\$545,000	4/1/16	4	2	841
6 Pacific St UNIT 1 Condo	\$530,000	4/13/16	5	1.5	1000
21 Gates St UNIT 3 Condo	\$485,000	4/14/16	4	1	743
295 D St UNIT 1 Condo	\$435,000	4/8/16	4	1	630
30 Boston St UNIT 2 Condo	\$407,500	4/8/16	4	1	700



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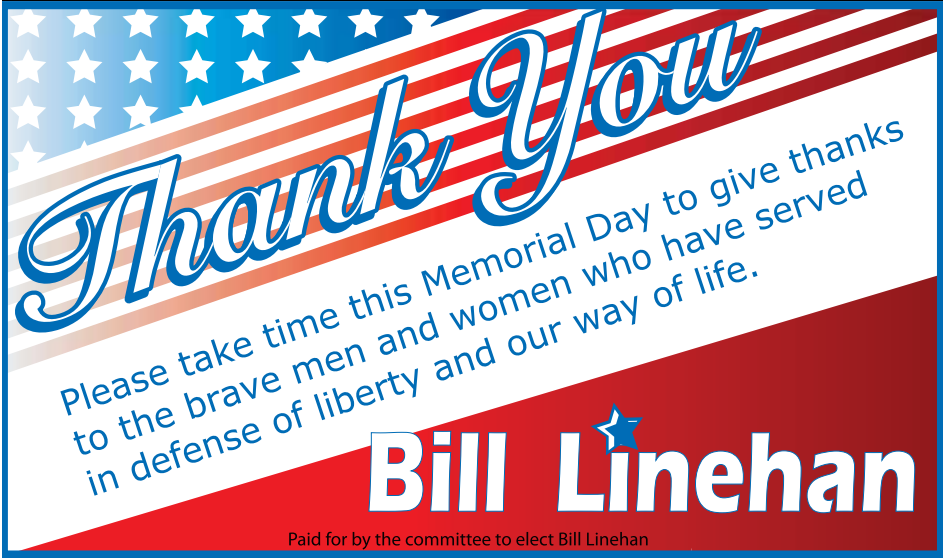
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past, present and future  
God bless you,  
and thank you.



**Castle Island Association**



# Thank You


Please take time this Memorial Day to give thanks  
to the brave men and women who have served  
in defense of liberty and our way of life.

## Bill Linehan

Paid for by the committee to elect Bill Linehan

"I am thankful for the  
dedication of our  
community's veterans  
and appreciate the  
sacrifices they have  
made for all of us as  
we honor them on this  
Memorial Day."

- Rep. Nick Collins



NICK  
**COLLINS**  
State Representative



**TOP LEFT: Frank Buckley**

**TOP RIGHT: Frank Buckley, row 1, second in from the left**

**MIDDLE RIGHT: George O'Neill with Marine Buddies**

**BOTTOM RIGHT: Helen Catherine O'Neill, Joe (top l), Leo (top r), and Bobby (bottom r)**



## The Buckley/O'Neill Families: A Proud Military Tradition

**SOUTH BOSTON TODAY - By Staff**

**H**ere at South Boston Today, one of our favorite and most rewarding things is to be able share with our readers the stories about our neighborhood's veterans - current as well as those who have passed on - and the pride felt by their families, as well as by this community in general. We've run stories about young Ryan Long, who served in the Middle East. We've been following the experiences and current travels of World War II Veteran Ed Hamilton. We even did a feature story about General Joseph Dunford, who went from

being top man in the US Marine Corps to now holding the position of Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. All of these South Bostonians have brought honor to this town and to our country.

This week, as we approach Memorial Day, it is our distinct honor and pleasure to share with you information about other veterans who have served, all of whom have passed away, but whose family members will forever hold their memories and service near to their hearts. The extended and combined Buckley and O'Neill families were kind enough to agree to give us details on the eight brave family members, who

served during World War II and the war in Korea.

We spoke with Barry Buckley and asked him to share the information about his Dad, Francis 'Frank' Buckley and his Uncle John, Frank's brother. Barry did even better than that. He brought us photos of his Dad and Uncles. Frank served in both the Atlantic and Pacific War zones. He also served in three branches including the Merchant Marines and the Coast Guard, but spent the bulk of his service in the Navy. During battles in the Pacific, he operated personnel landing craft that brought troops into the fighting and often came under fire. Frank spent a portion of the war

in the Philippines. He loved the people, the natural beauty and the culture that the island had to offer. John Buckley served in the Army and went through intensive training at Infantry School and was even a drummer in the army band, which was just one of his many talents. Along with being a good soldier, music was a hobby that he loved. John went to work as a welder when he left the service.

Frank Buckley's wife, Barry's Mom, born and raised in South Boston and who still resides here, was born Mary Elizabeth 'Betty' O'Neill. Six of her brothers also proudly served in World War II, all with distinguished service records.





**TOP: Joe O'Neill**  
**BOTTOM: George O'Neill**

**TOP: Charlie O'Neill**  
**BOTTOM: Bobby O'Neill**

**TOP: James (Leo) O'Neill**  
**BOTTOM: John Buckley**

Charlie O'Neill served his time in the Navy; in fact, he put in 17 years in uniform. Joe O'Neill, also a Navy man, was a gunner and was wounded in battle earning him a Purple Heart. James O'Neill, often called Leo by friends and family, served in both WW II and the Korean War and was in both the Navy and Coast Guard. George O'Neill was in the Army and spent time in Germany in WW II. Bill O'Neill was in the Army and fought in Korea and the lone Marine among the brothers was Bob O'Neill who was a tank commander in Korea.

Each one of the Buckley and O'Neill brothers became decorated members of the United States Military and, it goes without saying, all received an Honorable Discharge with full veteran's status. But the best part of all, through the Grace of God, all of them returned home to their families safely to lead productive and happy lives.

The event that prompted so many members of the same family to so willingly become part of the military during two of the most brutal wars in our country's history was the attack on Pearl Harbor, which

brought America into World War I. It would change the world forever. That attack on American soil was still fresh in the minds of all of our country's men and women as the Korean conflict broke out, which followed just a few short years later. The combination of patriotism, love of country and courage prompted literally millions of young Americans from nearly every family during those times to take up arms in defense of their homeland and our way of life. The fact that the Buckley and O'Neill families selflessly did their part for the homeland in such a big

way and with so many of their members is something to be proud of and they certainly are.

To this day, Mary Elizabeth 'Betty' Buckley has a display in her home with photos of her family members in their uniforms, who so gallantly served - Frank and John Buckley and Charlie, Joe, James (Leo), George, Bob and Bill O'Neill. It's a memorial that is cherished by the entire family, admired by friends who visit and a wonderful tribute to the Buckley and O'Neill men who answered the call in defense of freedom for a grateful nation.





# 14th Season Of Our Farmers Market, Open For Business

**T**he South Boston Neighborhood Development Corporation (SBND), the current sponsor of the South Boston Farmers Market, will hold an Opening Day Celebration at the market on June 6th.

Check in with old favorites Freitas' & Wenger's Farms to get some flowers and early vegetables. Welcome our new fish vendor Ray the Fish Guy and bakery vendor PB Boulangerie! The first 20 shoppers will receive a \$2 coupon for market products.

There will be live music playing by Jan and Lou Borelli from 12-3:00 pm. Local officials will be present to kick-off the market around noon. For Opening Day, specialty vendors like 'More Than Words' (books) and 'Tea is the Way' (tea) will be selling their products as well. The Boston Cyclist's Union will come out with their 'Bike To Market' program from 3-6pm. The program teaches young and old alike the basics of bike repair. Just bring down your bike and learn! Our Honorary Guest of the Day will be Mrs. Mary Lou Rosher, founder and tireless advocate and volunteer of the Southie Farmer's Market!

The market season begins on Opening Day on June 6th and will go through October 31, and will be held on every Monday excluding July 4th. The market runs from noon through 6 pm, and is located at 446 Broadway on the sidewalk in front of the municipal parking lot.

The South Boston Farmers Market accepts EBT/SNAP, WIC, and Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Coupons, and has Boston Bounty Bucks available for EBT/SNAP users.

If you're interested in joining the farmers market committee or are looking for more information about vendors, programming, or sponsorship, please visit our website: <http://www.sbnhc.org/south-boston-farmers-market/> or find us on Facebook- South Boston Farmers Market- and Twitter at @SBFarmersMkt\_

For more information, please go to <http://www.sbnhc.org/south-boston-farmers-market/>

SBND is a local non-profit that has successfully developed over 180 units of affordable housing in the community. SBND also provides support to the South Boston Street Festival, the Christmas and Spring Strolls, and Southie Trees.



## Scooter Party for Billy O'Neill Friday June 3rd

**M**ost people know Billy O'Neill. He's a born and raised South Bostonian and proud of it. He's often seen zipping around town on the motorized scooter he has been riding for years. Long term health problems make it difficult for him to walk even short distances and the scooter enables him to get out and about for errands and visits etc.

Recently, the scooter he's had for years went down. It's been used so long and so much; like all mechanical devices eventually do, it can go no fur-

ther. Nothing lasts forever.

A group of Bill's good friends got together and have organized a fundraiser to raise money to get Bill a new scooter. Insurance won't cover the cost and these machines are expensive. The party will be Friday night, June 3rd at the Seapoint Bar and Grill Restaurant at 367 E. Eighth Street here in South Boston. It starts at 6pm and will go until, well, who knows. The suggested donation is just \$20 but any donation however large or small will be appreciated and put to good use.

To join the fun, donations can be sent in advance to Curtis Lee at 11 Park Street, Dorchester, MA 02122 made out to Bill O'Neill Scooter Fund. Or you can just pay at the door the night of the party.

Those who know Billy O'Neill and there are certainly many who do, know him to be among the kindest, most caring people you could ever hope to meet. Generosity is a passion to him and has been all his life. He has helped out in countless good South Boston causes. Now it's Bill who needs a bit of help. So if you're looking to have a fun night out and help a truly great and deserving friend and neighbor, join the crowd at the Seapoint on June 3rd. Even if you've never met Bill personally, you will be more than welcomed at the event and you can get acquainted with one of Southie's finest and an all-around good guy.

**CICCONE**  
**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3**

cans for not being offended. These media members and their allies just can't get over their shock at the survey results, because as we all know, the 'libs' believe that people, especially minority groups, are only allowed to feel the way the 'libs' want them to feel.

And now to the controversy over the so called 'bathroom' issue. News reports say that the nationwide boycott of TARGET stores over their announced policy on transgender bathrooms has cost the company's stock to drop drastically and it's estimated that the store chain has lost more than 10 billion dollars in just the last few weeks. The number of people who are signing petitions to boycott is approaching a million and a half so far. No matter what you think about TARGET's policy, the company's response as to why its revenue and profits are sinking like rocks is mind numbingly ridiculous but typical. They say it's not because of the boycott, it's being caused by 'Global

Warming'. Apparently Global Warming is having no effect on Walmart, K-Mart, Sears, Costco, Sam's Club or BJ's. Just TARGET.

To close this week, the entire team here at South Boston Today wishes all of our readers a safe and happy Memorial Day weekend. Along with trips to the beach, backyard cookouts and gatherings of family and good friends, please find time to pause and remember our fallen veterans, which is the true reason for the day. In South Boston, many will visit a cemetery where a loved one is buried and lay a wreath or leave some flowers. Others will attend a special Church Service or Mass, maybe even a parade. Some will just fly Old Glory from the house or car.

Maybe a moment of silence will be observed. However you choose to honor the memory of these heroes who have given so much to protect our freedom and way of life in America, it's important to always keep the tradition alive forever. Enjoy.





## Mass Fallen Heroes Road Race and Ruck a Big Success

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY - By Staff

**W**hat a day for a race. That's what the hundreds of participants were saying as they turned out last Saturday for the Massachusetts Fallen Heroes 5K Road Race and Ruck which was just one of the many events scheduled for this week- 'Patriot Week'. The weather was perfect. Warm temperatures, light breeze and brilliant sunshine put smiles on the faces of racers and spectators alike. Under

an enormous American Flag flying high overhead thanks to the Boston Fire Department the mighty blast of the air horn signaled the start and they were off. Soldiers, Sailors, Marines, Cops, Firefighters and other first responders were mixed in with the civilians of every age as they sprinted along Day Blvd in Southie all for a great cause – helping veterans and their families.

It seemed everyone had smiles

on their faces whether they were running or standing on the sidelines because this was definitely a fun gathering. Dan Magoon, who is the Executive Director of Mass Fallen Heroes, was standing with Mary Ellen Callahan one of the Gold Star Mothers; both of whom were among the major organizers of the event looked quite pleased as everything was going smoothly and without a hitch. The term

'military precision' would be accurate to describe the sequence of events.

After the race, all were invited to a party and celebration in the parking lot of Carson Place and the live music of Cask Mouse added to the festive atmosphere. Saturday's road race and ruck started off a week long schedule of events that will take place across the state to herald 'Patriot Week' and will continue right into Memorial Day, May 30th. There will be concerts, flyovers by Fighter Jets, a fashion show at Coppersmith's, a softball game at Fenway Park, a harbor cruise and so much more. And of course there will be the dedication of the Massachusetts Fallen Heroes Memorial on May 27th on Northern Ave. For a full schedule of all the Patriot Week events, log onto the Massachusetts Fallen Heroes website at [www.massfallenheroes.org](http://www.massfallenheroes.org) and/or follow them on Facebook. The public is invited to all of them.

A well done to all the members of Massachusetts Fallen Heroes and their supporters for the fine work these dedicated and caring people do. And if last weekend's road race and ruck is any indication of how all the rest of the scheduled events will turn out, Patriot Week will be a rousing success. Please come out and show your support for a truly worthy and wonderful cause.

## South Boston High School Class of '66' to hold 50th Reunion

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY - By Staff

**T**he South Boston High School graduating class of 1966 has formed a committee and will be holding its 50th Reunion on Saturday, September 24th at Florian Hall at 55 Hallet Street in Dorchester, MA. It will begin at 7pm. A lot of the members of the class have been hoping there would be a 50th reunion so the committee members stepped up and decided to go for it.

The Class of 66 has held 3 prior reunions but this being the 50th Anniversary, the 'GOLDEN' Anniversary,

it promises to be the biggest and best 'bash' so far.

There will be a DJ for music and a buffet dinner. The cost of tickets will be \$50 but they must be purchased in advance and paid for no later than August 1st. Tickets will not be available at the door as an accurate head count is needed for proper planning.

The committee has pretty much thought of everything. They have even made arrangements for those who'd rather not drive home that night to stay at the Ramada Inn on Morrissey Blvd in Dorchester which

is just a short drive from Florian Hall.

South Boston Today will continue to remind members of the class as the date approaches. Class members are asked to spread the word to anyone who might be interested but may not know about it yet. Not everyone is on Facebook, Twitter or uses email so word of mouth might be necessary to get the message out to some.

In the meantime, for more information on getting tickets and progress made on the big preparations and accommodations, you can contact committee members: Tina

Shertick Murphy: phone at 617-548-7382/ email at [tinam1249@gmail.com](mailto:tinam1249@gmail.com), Louise Foley Hogan: phone at 617-512-6816/ email at [tandlhogan@verizon.net](mailto:tandlhogan@verizon.net), Cathy Hayes Chubbuck: phone at 617-259-8002/email at [cathy518@aol.com](mailto:cathy518@aol.com) and Janet Tess Richardi: phone at 508-725-2246/ email at [janetrichardi@comcast.net](mailto:janetrichardi@comcast.net)

This could be one of the biggest and best social events in years so you may want to make plans to be there. Getting reacquainted with former classmates and rekindling old friendships is always a good thing.





## FIRST TEE GOLF PROGRAM RETURNS TO BOSTON

**T**he Boston Parks and Recreation Department, the Massachusetts Golf Association (MGA), and the John D. Mineck Foundation are teaming up to offer young people (ages 7 to 17) an opportunity to participate in the First Tee of Massachusetts junior golf program at the William Devine Golf Course in Franklin Park.

The First Tee of Massachusetts was established in 2003 in hopes of bringing the game of golf to the Bay State's underprivileged and at-risk youth. Taught by PGA professionals, the sessions will begin July 11 and end the week of August 22, Monday through Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. (for 7 to 11-year-olds) and 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. (for 12 to 17-year-olds). The program is free to Boston residents. Non-residents are welcome to enroll for a fee of \$75. To register, please go to [www.thefirstteemass.org](http://www.thefirstteemass.org).

The First Tee introduces the game of golf and its inherent values to young people. Since its inception in 1997, The First Tee has grown into a robust youth service organization, impacting the lives of more than 9 million young people and exposing them to core values and life skills.

Participants progress through a series of golf lessons, and are introduced to the different aspects of a golf course including the green, tee, fairway, rough, bunkers, and water hazards. They are also shown the basic elements of the game of golf and the swing, including distance and accuracy control, course management, how to score, pace of play, and proper grip, stance, and posture.

On-course play takes place from week two through week seven. In addition to golf, participants are introduced to the nine core values inherent to the game including honesty, integrity, confidence, responsibility, perseverance, sportsmanship, judgment, respect, and courtesy.

The program also helps participants become comfortable with introducing themselves to others, meeting new people, learning something new, setting goals, and properly managing conflict. These life skills are useful for the participants both on and off the golf course.

For more information, please contact Joe McCabe at [jmccabe@mga-links.org](mailto:jmccabe@mga-links.org) or (774) 430-9109 or visit The First Tee of Massachusetts at [www.thefirstteemass.org](http://www.thefirstteemass.org).



## Tynan Happenings

**The BCYF Tynan community Center** will be hosting the Fun-In-The-Sun Program (Summer Camp) from July 5th through August 19th. It is a 7-week program for Girl's and Boy's ages 7-13. Hours of operation will be 9am to 3pm. Registration will be first come first serve basis so please if interested drop by the BCYF Tynan and pick up an application. The program provides campers with the opportunities for growth and development in physical, educational, social and cultural skills.

**BNBL:** The BCYF Tynan will be the site for Girl's BNBL 15U & 18 Under in South Boston. We are in the process of organizing the teams. The league starts on July 5th, so please, if you're interested in playing please stop by the bcyf Tynan.

**BNBL** will also offer a FREE Pee Wee Developmental program for boys and girls ages 6-11 yrs. old, here at the BCYF TYNAN.

The Pee Wee Development League helps youth ages 6-11 develop the fundamental skills necessary to play team basketball. Participants will learn basketball skills through drills and game play. Participants will then be placed on teams and will play games in a non-competitive setting.

**Youth Basketball League:** We just completed our 3rd week of league play. Many of the boys and Girls are displaying some great talent as the weeks go on. Last week the Thunder and Magic were tied at halftime until Michael Noonan came out strong in the second half for the Magic netting 9 points along with Ryan Alexander who had a strong game. The second game seen Evan Markos scoring 13 points as the warriors went on to beat the bulls 27-16. Robert Wiesnieski played an excellent game for the bulls scoring 12 points.





## Rep. Collins Laces Up for Veterans Services

State Representative Nick Collins recently joined his colleagues in the Massachusetts House of Representatives to skate in a charity ice hockey game to raise awareness of veteran's suicide, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), and other mental health issues stemming from service.

The hockey game was organized by the Skate 22 Foundation,

a Massachusetts based advocacy organization which raises awareness of the struggles that many veterans face upon returning home. Their mission is to provide support, ice time, and skating equipment to veterans at no cost. They also organize volunteers to fundraise and participate in veteran's outreach programs. The name of the organization comes from the 22 veterans

who lose their lives every day to mental health and other service related issues upon returning home from service.

"I am proud to stand with such a courageous organization in addressing the very serious mental health issues that many veterans face" said Rep. Collins (D-South Boston). "These kinds of events and opportunities help reaffirm our commitment

to the wellbeing of veterans in this country and across the Commonwealth. I was happy to get back on the ice for such an important cause."

The veterans' team prevailed by a score of 10-7, but more importantly the hockey game raised funds and awareness to support veterans in need. To learn more about the organization or how you can help, visit [www.skateforthe22.com](http://www.skateforthe22.com).

### URBAN PLANNERS PLAYGROUND CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

or even section of Boston is being envisioned. The corridor, which is comprised of mostly commercial and industrial parcels, has been extended into the Dorchester Heights section of South Boston and would affect many existing residences. The CruisePort and BMIP are being courted by major developers seeking to change the enabling legislation and either limit, or re-define, the maritime uses that the legislation sought to protect, when first enacted. The MA Department of Transportation has been pushing to expand the vehicular traffic along the Haul Road which has been a key benefit to the businesses on the waterfront. Obviously the dramatic growth in residential and office complexes are pressuring this transportation nexus and driving the decision-making and planning process.

The proposed waterfront project at 150 Seaport Blvd is on a small parcel and relief is needed on its existing height limits, setback requirements, and other legal restrictions. One plan is to revise the official harbor development plan so the project can clear the public access mandate. Another is to set up a special zoning district to accommodate the project. To quote a recent article by Dante Ramos these change requests "... epitomize the kind of parcel-by-parcel approach to development that (the City of Boston) administration (was) supposed to be weaning the city off of. A city where exceptions are routine isn't about to start following rules in the middle of the biggest building boom in recent memory". South Boston Proper is being presented with a package of zoning options that residents can't quite wrap their heads around. There appear to

be too many 'what if' and 'if then' scenarios that need to be presented, explained and understood, before folks can buy into the grand plan. City planners in all cases seem to be in a big hurry. South Boston doesn't need to be rushed into greasing the skids for yet more encroachment on the way

of life that attracts so many wonderful people to Boston. Most of the folks seeking to benefit from the boom are here for the boom. The boom will continue but South Boston needs time to digest the smorgasbord of change being proposed. Slow Down Please!

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