What’s Massport’s Plan For South Boston?

Massport is holding a public hearing on Monday June 13 at 6PM at the Tynan Community Center and while the topic is the Tommy Butler Memorial Park, many residents want to know what Massport’s plan is for the South Boston Community? A public relations blitz is underway about how much Massport means to the South Boston Community, so could a new real estate...
“Over the Cliff”

Did his mother throw him in? Was he pushed? Did he fall? Did he most likely, simply run off the cliff? Once he was in the pit, what difference did it matter how he got there? At that point it was an animal’s life or a child. Instead of thanks for their quick action, Cincinnati Zoo officials have been subject to death threats. Meanwhile 69 people were shot in Chicago over the weekend and the silence from, “concerned humanitarians” is deafening. Perhaps the child’s action is a metaphor for America’s course. For a quarter of a century, we’ve been stumbling awkwardly toward the edge. Now, like the child, our nation seems to be running headlong off the cliff.

“Politicians who continuously increase taxes on an already burdened populace must be resisted, then removed from office at the earliest opportunity” - Eric Richard Fowler

This Week’s Poll

Do you think that having a helicopter terminal in the South Boston Waterfront is necessary?

YES

NO

Vote online at SouthBostonToday.com
Get ready folks. Brace yourselves for yet another attempt to raise our taxes here in Boston. This time, the Boston City Council will try to call it by a different name. In Massachusetts, each time they wanted to add a new tax or raise an existing one, they used to call it ‘An investment in the future’. After a while, the public wised up to that con job. So now they name it a ‘surcharge’. They can call it by whatever name they want to, but the fact is, the increase the city council will try to tack onto homeowner’s property tax bills, which if it succeeds, will surely get passed on to renters is by all means, a tax. To paraphrase a much used saying – “If it looks like a tax, smells like a tax and costs people even more money to be able to live in this city, it’s most definitely a tax. And it should be opposed and defeated. Otherwise, they will keep coming at us with more increases every time their greedy hearts crave more. Since enough is never enough for some of our elected officials, like small children who never want to take their hands out of the cookie jar, they must firmly be told by the people they so often forget they answer to – ‘NO’. 

FBI Director James Comey, who seems to be a decent and good man - a rarity for someone appointed by the Obama Administration - has gone public with his frustration at the growing rise in violent crime in several of America’s large cities. It should be noted that the cities where this is happening are run by liberal Democrat city governments and have some of the toughest gun laws on the books anywhere. In cities like Chicago for example, a domestic war zone if there ever was one, every thug, gang member and criminal in that town has a gun and the only people prevented from owning them are the law abiding citizens who are living in terror because they are not allowed the tools to defend themselves. One of the dominant theories as to why violent crime is spiking so badly in these places is that police are not being supported and backed up by the politicians in power. It is generally believed by the non-criminal American citizens that there is a war on police in these cities, where cops are almost afraid to do their jobs properly, because it will be they who are prosecuted instead of the perpetrators. When the White House openly gives support and encouragement to groups like the racist Black Lives Matter, a group whose members have openly encouraged violence against police, it’s easy to understand the frustration among many members of law enforcement. And when the cops are punished for doing their jobs and the bad guys know it, the bad guys take that as a green light to do whatever they want. 

David Clark, Sheriff of Milwaukee County in Wisconsin, an African American and an outspoken top notch member of law enforcement has had enough. He said the following in response to the violent crime situation and the anti-police attitude taking hold in some cities. “I’m too ticked off to be diplomatic and I’m not going to stick my head in the sand. The President of the United States started this war on police.” Sheriff Clark has CONTINUED ON PAGE 11
The overall below-benchmark amount remains in a range that we can manage through,” Administration and Finance Secretary Kristen Lepore said in a statement. If she finds a way to make a third of a billion dollars go poof, Lepore shall have a new nickname here: “Houdini.” If not, it’ll be “Bullwinkle.”

Lowell miffed by UMass purchase

City officials in Lowell are miffed that UMass Lowell purchased a large residential apartment complex without consulting the city, a move that will leave a $321,000 hole in the city’s budget as the complex comes off the property tax rolls, Grant Welker of the Lowell Sun reports. UMass purchased the Perkins Park project for $61.5 million, saying it would convert the property to student housing.

Criminal immigrants among us, courtesy of the US government

Talk about a hot-button issue in an election year dominated by debate over immigration: Many criminal immigrants who were supposed to be deported by U.S. officials were instead quietly released across the region and country — with many then going on to commit other serious crimes, according to a big weekend report by the Globe’s Maria Sacchetti.

The story’s main graf: “A Globe review of 323 criminals released in New England from 2008 to 2012 found that as many as 30 percent committed new offenses, including rape, attempted murder, and child molestation — a rate that is markedly higher than Immigration and Customs Enforcement officials have suggested to Congress in the past.”

Needless to say, the Drudge Report didn’t waste time linking to the story, with the headline: ‘Feds Secretly Releasing Violent Criminal Aliens En Masse.’ But you know what? The Drudge headline is accurate, unfortunately. To get the data, the Globe had to sue the federal government. The Globe also has a searchable database of the names and locations of released criminals. All in all, it’s a very impressive – and damning -- report by the newspaper.

‘The arrogance, defensiveness, incompetence and carelessness’ of ICE officials

Jon Keller at CBS Boston praises the Globe’s weekend story on how U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement officials have quietly released immigrant criminals back into society, rather than deport them, and he doesn’t mince words about the feds:

“It took the Globe nearly five years, endless wrangling with federal bureaucrats and a federal lawsuit to get the raw data documenting this egregious failure. And even now, ICE still won’t tell us exactly where these dangerous criminals were released. Read the article, and drink in the arrogance, defensiveness, incompetence and carelessness of the officials involved. They wield plenty of power, funded by your tax dollars.”

Massachusetts sheriffs bemoan funding disparities

As MassLive’s Shira Schoenberg notes, Essex County received $34,300 per inmate in state funding in fiscal year 2015, but Berkshire County received $72,000 per inmate. The same county funding disparities exist across the state, raising the question: Why? “There’s no real rhyme or reason,” said Worcester County Sheriff Lew Evangelidis. “The disparity is almost incomprehensible.” So sheriffs are hoping the state will provide an answer – and a solution – for the funding differences.

Don’t look back: Supreme Court nixes effort to reinstate libel suit against Herald

The Herald’s long legal nightmare involving a “Boston” band member may soon, finally, be at an end, one would assume. From Dan Glaun at MassLive: “The Supreme Court has rejected ‘Boston’ founder Tom Scholz’ effort to restart his defamation lawsuit against the Boston Herald, eight years after the newspaper published comments from bandmate Brad Delp’s wife that allegedly blamed Scholz for Delp’s suicide. Scholz, whose musical collaboration with Delp in the 1970s led to hits like ‘More Than A Feeling’ and ‘Don’t Look Back,’ had his lawsuit dismissed by the state’s Supreme Judicial Court last year, after justices ruled that Micki Delp’s comments to the Herald were opinions, not defamation.”

Eleven state companies move up on the Fortune 500 list

Massachusetts corporations grew bigger and stronger last year – and eleven of them moved up the Fortune 500 ladder as a result, reports Greg Ryan at the Boston Business Journal: “Again leading the way in Massachusetts was Boston-based insurance giant Liberty Mutual, which rose to No. 73 on the list after finishing No. 78 last year. Springfield’s MassMutual jumped nearly 20 spots on the list to No. 76, and...
confess. I surrender. Apparently, after reading the local dailies the last two weeks, I’ve been engaging in illegal activity. While not charged, my 10 years as a former altar boy have taught me to admit my sins. I have advised developers to hire union labor. There, I said it. I’m not going to squeal, but I’m not alone. Let me try to explain before the authorities kick in the door.

Back in 1997, the legislature passed Chapter 152 which is the law allowing construction of the BCEC, the Convention Center. A number of us, “Mouthies from Southie”, immediately began attending the public meetings and intimately learning what was being proposed. We were joined by likeminded new residents from A Street, Fort Point, and Summer Street, who shared our interest and concern. Mid-way through 1998, about 20 of these individuals received a letter of request from Gov. Weld, Mayor Menino, Congressman Moakley and the South Boston elected officials, inviting us to join a newly-formed Design Advisory Committee (DAC).

The members were drawn from community organizations, business and civic leaders. The purpose was to review the design for the BCEC and adjoining infrastructure and bring the concerns and support from residents in our neighborhoods and advise how best to address those issues and keep the community at large well informed. After two years of almost weekly meetings, the issues of design, traffic, construction and community benefits were resolved and building began. DAC was thanked for their work and asked to remain as the reviewing committee for all waterfront projects. Fully 75-80 percent of all development existing today was first presented to DAC.

As each proponent appeared, it became predictable what questions would come from each DAC member. Impact on L Street or Summer Street would concern Point members, while St. Vinnie’s folks or Fort Point people would focus on West First or A Streets. All the questions regarding height, parking and density would be asked. At some point, though, the actual construction would be discussed. A typical conversation would be, “Who is building this project?” A developer might answer, “We are still deciding”. A DAC member might then say something like, “well Boston is a union town and no place supports unions more than South Boston and many, many of our friends and neighbors are union workers who need the work. “You have the right to choose but you’ll probably get much better acceptance and results if you build union”.

As the earlier confession states, I did it and most other members said similar remarks or agreed with them. Some would say it was good advice, which would seem to be the role of “Advisory Committee”. Some would say such advice is consistent with CH. 152 which specifically identifies South Boston as the “impacted area” and further requires “union scale wages” be paid. That requirement is a tacit acknowledgement that top quality work requires top pay. Which is what unions are all about, so why not simply hire the qualified union shop.

The “impacted area”, South Boston, has been at the front of the labor movement in America. In April 1919, Julia O’Connor led the Boston police strike. The Boston police strike was really just loyalty to the 19 officers fired merely for forming a union and joining the American Federation of Labor. In 1898, Boston police made $23.00 dollars a week, the same pay they were receiving in 1919 except they only got a day off every 15 and spend one night a week sleeping at their station in “reserve”. The cost of living had risen 116 percent since 1898. The resulting shock wave established that, “no one has the right to strike against public safety”, by engaging in criminal activity, but also that the American worker had the right to organize for fair pay and conditions and would fight for those rights, as 3 demonstrators, shot and killed by troops at E Street and Broadway during the police strike, proved.

Growing up with this history, it seemed logical, not criminal, to tell developers, “things will go much easier if you go union”. If common sense is now criminal, give me immunity and I’ll give the Feds the names of all the DAC criminals.

Take care till next week.
Fort Point Watersheet Activation Grants Awardees

The Boston Redevelopment Authority (BRA), in conjunction with the Fort Point Channel Operations Board (FPCOB), has awarded six grants totaling $40,000 to art, education, and community groups with plans for activating the Fort Point Watersheet for the 2016 season. Grant applicants were asked to submit project ideas that would develop creative water-based programming around the edges of the channel or construct capital improvements within the channel.

“This year’s grant recipients have plans to enhance the Fort Point area with a number of exciting initiatives and installations,” said Brian Golden, Director of the BRA. “We’re really looking forward to seeing these ideas come to life.”

2016 Winning Projects:
Floating Urban Garden Mandala
Applicants: Artists for Humanity and Conducive, Inc.
Award: $5,000

Artists for Humanity, a non-profit that employs Boston-area youth to create artwork for local businesses, institutions, and the public, and Conducive, Inc., a firm that utilizes innovative urban design and real estate to focus on building ecosystem services in urban neighborhoods, have together proposed a floating garden mandala to both engage the public in and educate it of urban ecology and its restorative properties.

Brown Box Season of Free Theater with Enhanced Audience Experience
Applicant: Brown Box Theatre Project
Award: $10,000

Brown Box Theatre Project’s professional, high-quality, and free performances will return to the Fort Point Channel for the fourth year with both indoor and outdoor performances, including Cymbeline. In addition, risers will accommodate larger audiences to improve views, ensuring that more attendees are able to easily enjoy this unique cultural experience.

BSA Space Sidewalk Activation
Applicant: BSA Foundation
Award: $5,000

The BSA Space plans to launch a design ideas competition to activate their storefront and sidewalk that will help animate the urban waterfront and draw visitors to and from the waterfront with an enhanced public realm. The competition will begin in winter 2017 and a winner will be selected in spring 2017.

Discovering Fort Point Channel: A Science and Art Exploration of the Beings and Beauty of the Waterfront
Applicant: “e”, Inc.
Award: $5,000

Previous grantee “e” inc. will return with its six-week marine science education program at Atlantic Wharf on Fort Point Channel this July and August. Youth from various urban summer camps and social service centers will be able to enjoy hands-on science lessons and experience rowing in Boston Harbor.

Permanent & Dynamic: Floating Public Art
Applicant: Fort Point Arts Community
Award: $5,000

The Fort Point Arts Community will bring more floating art to the Fort Point Channel, following prior successes of “Tropical Fort Point” and “Who Wears Wool,” the latter of which was also funded by the Fort Point Channel Operations Board.

Fort Point Channel Lunchtime Livery and Home Waters Programs
Applicant: Hull Lifesaving Museum
Award: $10,000

For the fifth year, the Fort Point Lunchtime Livery Program will give community members and tourists alike the opportunity to rent row boats on the Fort Point Channel. Home Waters Program offers an experiential education program for more than 300 Boston-area youth and adults from every single neighborhood in the city.

About the Fort Point Watersheet Activation Plan

The grant program is part of the Fort Point Watersheet Activation Plan, established in 2002 by the Mayor’s Office and the Boston Redevelopment Authority to spearhead a vision for a “Boston Common on the water.” The Plan, which proposed new cultural activities and year round programming, resulted from a successful collaborative effort between the City, landowners, nonprofit and cultural leaders, and residents. The Fort Point Channel Watersheet Activation Grant Program is funded by the Chapter 91 Waterways Regulations License for Atlantic Wharf, developed by Boston Properties.

Jim Brett, President and CEO of the New England Council, and Senator Elizabeth Warren were both presented with Honorary Doctor of Public Service Degrees at Bridgewater State University. Senator Warren was the commencement speaker. In the photo, Jim Brett, Senator Elizabeth Warren, and Fred Clark, President of Bridgewater State University.
Doing what we do best, eclectic and historic are two words that, perhaps, best describe the dedication up the Heights Saturday June 4th. The unveiling of the replica 18 pounder cannon mounted on it’s beautiful granite gun carriage was ushered in with pomp and flourishes. Superintendent Michael Creasey of the National Park Service Boston expertly introduced the speakers including Cong. Stephen Lynch, Rep. Nick Collins, Councilor Michael Flaherty, South Boston Historical Society President, Professor Bob Allison, “Road to Concord” author J. L. Bell and standing in for Saunders Post Commander John Mullen, who unfortunately was ill, Commander Elect Brian R. Mahoney. Also in attendance representing Mayor Walsh was John Allison and Councilor Bill Linehan aide, John Ulrich.

The South Boston Jr. ROTC color guard led by Sgt. Major Muchado, was joined by the Lexington Minutemen serving as honor guard and providing flute and drummer. The fa-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 15
The Port of Boston is thriving. Boston’s 6th largest employer with more than 7,000 direct jobs contributes $4.6 billion annually to the Massachusetts economy. Every day, the Port of Boston is making a difference in people’s lives; the shoes we wear, the furniture we sit on, the cars we drive, the oil we heat with, the toys our children play with all travel through the Port of Boston. Massport’s Conley Container Terminal processed a record 221,014 containers in 2015. Massport is working hard to balance our roles as an economic engine, a good neighbor, and an environmental steward.

In 2015, Conley Container Terminal received a national Breathe Easy Leadership Award for reducing harmful diesel emissions beyond what is required by law, and promoting clean transportation in the Northeast. Particulate matter at the Conley Terminal has declined 20% since 2011.

**Clean trucks** We replaced 60 old drayage trucks with clean diesel trucks at a cost of $3 million funded by Massport, truck owners and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). As a result, nitrogen oxides, particulate matter, hydrocarbons, and carbon monoxide have all been significantly reduced.

**Clean cranes** We’re using EPA funding to retrofit five diesel-powered rubber tire gantry cranes used to load and unload trucks and reposition containers within the yard at Conley Container Terminal. The retrofitted cranes will conserve fuel, reduce noise and significantly reduce emissions.

**Dedicated freight corridor** We’re investing $75 million to create the Thomas Butler Freight Corridor which will eliminate 400-500 trucks through the neighborhood each day, create a sound barrier, and a 4.5 acre Memorial Park.

As the Port of Boston - the second oldest port in the nation - continues to benefit the Commonwealth’s innovation economy and all of New England, Massport will continue to invest in environmentally friendly technology.

For more information visit www.massport.com
### Recent South Boston Real Estate Sales

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**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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**Mountain Lakes Area in New Hampshire’s White Mountain Region**

Bookings for:
- June
- July
- August
- September

$1,075.00 per week
7 nights
Friday to Friday

Call John at:
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email: jcsbic@hotmail.com

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**BOSTON REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

**PUBLIC MEETING**

55 WEST FIFTH STREET

MIMONDAY, JUNE 13
6:30 PM - 8:30 PM

PROJECT PROPONENT:
Boston Real Estate Capital

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:
The Proponent seeks to redevelop an approximately 10,000 square foot parcel located at 55 West Fifth Street. The Proposed Project consists of the demolition of the existing structure on the site and the construction of an approximately 36,320 gross square foot mixed-use building. The Proposed Project will include approximately 2,045 square feet of retail space on the ground floor level, thirty six (36) residential rental units, and thirty six (36) off street parking spaces.

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

PHONE: 617-918-4492
EMAIL: Raul.Duverge@Boston.gov

CLOSE OF COMMENT PERIOD:
June 24, 2016
It was a beautiful early June day. The temperature was warm, as the fog rolled in from the water to blanket the beach at Pleasure Bay. But somehow, the fog stopped short at the edge of Day Blvd., because just across the street at Marine Park it stayed sunny, bright and welcoming for the throngs of happy kids and their parents who were enjoying themselves at the annual South Boston Family Fun Day.

This event, sponsored by the South Boston Mom’s Club is becoming a much anticipated pre-summer tradition. And why not? Its good healthy fun that the whole family can enjoy together and walking through the crowd it was easy to see that fun was certainly the theme of the day. There was music to please the ears of all. There were games, contests and prizes. The shrieks and laughter of happy children filled the air from start to finish.

When it was over, the kids were exhausted (and of course, the parents were too) from a day of excitement and a wonderful and positive experience at Marine Park as it has been each and every year Family Fun Day has been held and will hopefully continue to be for many years to come. Congratulations to the South Boston Mom’s Club for a job well done and to the Department of Conservation and Recreation for all the support given.
Flag Retirement Ceremony Tuesday, 11am at Castle Island

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY - By Staff

This Tuesday, June 14th, Flag Day, the annual Flag Retirement Ceremony will take place at Fort Independence at Castle Island. It begins at 11: am. It’s open to the public and admission is free. This is a formal ceremony which will demonstrate the proper way to dispose of or ‘retire’ the Flag of the United States of America – Old Glory/ The Stars and Stripes.

Most know that when disposing of an old, faded or ripped and shredded flag Americans do not simply throw them away. They are incinerated the proper way and that will be on display on Sunday. Any member of the public who is in possession of a flag that should be disposed of is invited to bring it to the ceremony on Sunday and it will be retired with other flags.

On hand will be a color guard as well as other military units. The event will take place inside the Fort on the parade grounds. The Flag Retirement Ceremony is sponsored by the Castle Island Association, the Paul J. Saunders’s VFW Post #6536, The Thomas J. Fitzgerald VFW Post # 561 and the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR).

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a reputation of being a no nonsense cop and he calls it exactly like he sees it. He has no fear and that’s so refreshing.

I recently spent another week in northern New Hampshire and the feelings there are pretty much the same as what I’m hearing around town here in South Boston. And from what reports say, the sentiment is growing all around the country. Americans have had it with turning on the news each day and seeing punks stomping on and burning American flags. The anger is building and there is going to be major backlash if it keeps up. Like many of you have expressed, I too won’t deny or apologize for enjoying situations where each time some idiot is disrespecting or desecrating the flag of our country, they get knocked on their butts. Whether it’s a college campus or at a political protest, if you don’t like this country, move. It’s just that simple. And no matter who you like for president, the indisputable fact is you will never see Trump supporters or any politically Conservative American burning an American Flag - ever. That cannot be said for some people on the other side of the political spectrum and everyone knows it.

And speaking of moving if you are so unhappy, Michelle Obama was whining last week during a speech at a college graduation about having to wake up each morning in a White House that was built by slaves. I’m pretty sure she knew how it was built before she moved in. And it’s certain that millions of Americans would love it if she and her husband moved out a few months ahead of schedule.
Fort Point Arts Community Open Studios

June 17: Friday Preview select studios open 4–7pm
June 18–19: Saturday and Sunday studios open 12–6pm

Twice a year, FPAC artists open their studio doors to share the arts, industry and culture of this unique community, with the public. Open Studios event features the work of over 80 artists, crafts people, and designers. Works are on view in studios, galleries, on the streets and in the water around Fort Point. Explore the historic warehouse buildings that are home to painters, sculptors, photographers, fashion designers, potters, weavers, graphic and industrial designers, dancers, musicians, performance artists, and more.

South Boston Third Grader Featured in Show Boat

Citi Performing Arts Center Shubert Theatre
June 22-July 3, 2016

Brendan O’Brien, a third-grader at the James F. Condon Elementary School in South Boston, makes his Fiddlehead Theater Company debut in Show Boat as a member of the children’s ensemble. Brendan fell in love with theater after seeing his first show at almost four years old. He has performed with Boston Children’s Theatre (BCT) in the World Premiere of Caps for Sale (Monkey), Assassins (Billy), Stuart Little (Zeke and others) and Pippin (Theo). He also appeared in SpeakEasy Stage Company’s appropriate (Ainsley), 2016 IRNE nomination, Best Play. In his free time he enjoys dancing and performing at Fourth Presbyterian Church and singing with BCT’s Junior Show Choir.

Massport Agenda

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

development project be far behind? Massport is essentially a real estate developer. Logan Airport expansion has to be accompanied by waterfront expansion, both the shipping of goods and the carrying of tourists. The influx of tourists requires hotel accommodations. Hotels stays are being marketed worldwide, but the community needs a meaningful public hearing, soliciting local input, so it knows what is really going on. Massport’s Board guidelines require that its agenda be posted on its website and advertised in at least one daily (usually the Boston Herald) 48 hours before it holds its meetings. Changing that protocol would go a long way towards transparency and openness.

Both tourists and local residents need good transportation networks. The latest in required transportation are now corporate helicopters. Massport likes the Fort Point Channel area, but have residents been engaged for their opinion or input?

The Tommy Butler Park serves “as a significant noise and visual buffer for the adjacent residents and creating a significant new amenity for the neighborhood. The Park will be primarily passive in nature and will include an end-to-end multi-use path, varied and extensive plantings, a concrete sound barrier along the northern edge, a security fence enclosure, and seating, lighting, bike racks, and other amenities. As part of the park and in conjunction with the community, Massport will reconfigure existing parking along the north side of East First Street to provide 95 parking spaces (13 parallel and 82 angled) along East First Street, which would serve both open space users and neighboring community”.

Tommy would be the first to say “that’s nice but where’s the beef?” Residents appreciate the honor to Tommy Butler, but mitigation like that which East Boston had benefited from during the Logan expansion should be matched in this community today, given the expansion of the South Boston Waterfront.

Today, Massport is one of the largest landowners in South Boston and controls the most developable properties. The BRA, the City of Boston in general, along with the Commonwealth to a lesser degree, has the most power over the disposition of that land. Massport planning owes this community both respect and legitimate mitigation. Show South Boston that you’re really a great neighbor.

As for the South Boston community, take the time to attend the meeting next Monday June 13 at 6pm at the Tynan Community Center. Participate, listen, ask and get answers. Otherwise, don’t complain.
Nicknames and South Boston Are Synonymous

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY - By Brian P. Wallace

I want to thank so many people who expressed their gratitude for the article that I wrote last week called “There are places I remember, some have gone and some remain.” The comments that seemed to be the most prevalent were, “thanks for the memories” or “thanks for the walk down memory lane” I even had people calling me up asking about certain places. I am glad you enjoyed a walk down a simpler, slower paced lifestyle. You never know how good you had it until it is gone. So live for today, kiss your kids, be kind to your friends and enjoy what you have.

One thing we always had in South Boston were nicknames. Even my father’s friends had nicknames, so I was basically brought up with them. My Dad was called Bubby Wallace; his brother John was known as Cubby Wallace. My dad always referred to Pipe neck Ferrara, as if that was his God given name. One of my Professors on nicknames was one of the smartest men I ever knew. His name was Francis Canavan but he was always known as Scoop. He explained to me that in Southie’s other Parish across the pond known as Ireland, it seems that there were so many small villages in which a majority of people who resided in that small village had the same last name, whether it be Sullivan, O’Brien, Murphy, Flynn, Murphy, Casey. There could be as many as 28 Murphy’s in one village. How is it possible to distinguish one Thomas Murphy from another Thomas Murphy in Ireland? They made up nicknames to distinguish on Thomas Murphy from another or ten others The nicknames born in Ireland were brought nickname by nickname to South Boston where so many Irish immigrants settled.

The Irish people who are known for their wit, and a few other things, are experts at coming up with nicknames Nicknames come in all varieties, some are funny, some are descriptive, some have to do with where a person works, some are malicious, some are flattering, some are kind of insulting, and some are the polar opposite of the person they describe. Some are passed down from family to family. My good friend Joe Flaherty was a hulking presence at first base. Somebody yelled out, “Joe Flaherty was for ever known as Maury.” I did the eulogy when we buried him and I don’t think I ever called him anything but Maury. A friend of ours had bad teeth, His nickname was of course Smiley. Another friend rarely smiled, he was called Jolly. Another friend smoked 5 packs of cigarettes a day. We called him Weed. Every Campbell family had a soupy. Meathead Murphy was a butcher. Hydrant head Malone was a fireman. Tuffy O’Hare is still the toughest guy in Southie. Just ask him. There was nothing Porky about Jimmy Moore. Did Happy Flaherty ever smile?

The place with the most nicknames is, most assuredly the Old Harbor project. One day a Chines kid named Bill Yee moved into Jimmy “Chumpy” Dolan’s building and his mother asked Jimmy to introduce him to Jimmy’s friends. Chumpy started the introduction. “Bill this is Moslem, Jolly, Boob, Maury, Smiley, Snipe, Waz, Jaz and Fraz, Juicehead and Rico Petra Calnan, JL, DL, BL, EJ, JD, and Bubby Wallace. The poor kid thought he had landed on a different planet, and maybe he had. He was kind of shell shocked. “What is your name?” EJ asked. “My name Bill Yee.” He responded. “Bill Yee what?” EJ pressed. “No that whole name Bill Yee,” he said again. I know you know is Bill Yee, but what is your last name,” EJ said as we rolled on the ground. “Name Yee, Yee, Yee,” he screamed. “Ok don’t piss yourself,” EJ said as he walked away. Nice introduction, but true and it shows the extent of nicknames down Old Harbor. One family had 4 boys. Their nicknames were Dubba, Jabber, Sleep and Dukie, which are my favorites.

OK your turn. I will give you 15 nicknames and you have to add the real last names.

Lunch, Wilbur, Runt, Gink, Buckets, Pinky, Gypo, Mucka Ducka Doo, Yogi, Rinty, Bunka, Jocko, Booma, Gasha, Rardy! I will bet that nobody gets all 15. If you think you have them all e mail me at bri-anpatrick2495@gmail.com. The first one to get all 15 will get an autographed copy of any of my books that you would like. Good luck and keep those nicknames coming.

WINDOW INTO THE STATEHOUSE CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

this year Framingham-based retailer TJX (NYSE: TJX) entered the Fortune 100, coming in at No. 89 after ranking No. 103 last year. “Ah, but one company did stumble: Waltham’s Global Partners, whose fuel-logistics business got crushed by turmoil in the energy market. The firm fell from No. 180 to No. 276.

BBJ T says it can’t reconcile fares, cash

The MBTA acknowledged that it still cannot fully reconcile the fares it collects with the cash it actually deposits in the bank -- and the agency’s leadership says privatizing the cash counting process may be the best solution, Jack Sullivan of CommonWealth Magazine reports. The reconciliation issue was first raised in an audit five years ago that found the problem could be costing the T as much as $20 million annually. Also on the T front: The T’s control board voted Monday to eliminate refunds to commuter rail passengers who have unused tickets, a move that will save the T $400,000 a year, Sullivan reports.

State orders Framingham police to release audits

The state’s supervisor of public records has ordered the Framingham police department to turn over any audits and other reports it has about the operation of its evidence room, Jim Haddadin of the MetroWest Daily News reports. The department had refused to release information on problems with evidence custody, citing a criminal investigation under way by the office of Attorney General Maura Healey.

Salem budget includes ‘knock and talk’ funds to target opioids

Salem Mayor Kim Driscoll’s $151 million budget proposal includes funds to hire police officers and substance abuse counselors to launch a “knock-and-talk” program that will reach out to those in the grips of opioid addiction, Dustin Luca of the Salem News reports. Similar programs, which recruit recovering addicts to serve as outreach counselors, are in place in Revere and Lynn.

They call themselves girls, but they’re actually a little more than that

Bruce Mendelsohn, the New England regional director of the Friends of the Israel Defense Forces, has the interesting job of accompanying Israeli soldiers around as they meet local Americans to build support for the defense of Israel, reports Mary Markos at the Jewish Journal. But he recently hosted two female soldiers in their early twenties, riding around with them and noticing how they talked to friends on their phones, did their nails, chatted about shopping, and did other, well, young girly stuff. “They call themselves girls, and people who see them call them women,” Mendelsohn said. “They’re neither. These are warriors. And they transform.”
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2016 Boston Parks Summer Fitness Series

Marleen Smits and Nathalie Luyck of South Boston help spread the word about the 2016 Boston Parks Summer Fitness Series sponsored by Blue Cross Blue Shield during the kick-off event held June 1 at Copley Square. The Boston Parks and Recreation Department and Boston Public Health Commission host 21 free fitness classes per week at parks in 11 different neighborhoods across the city. For a full schedule, go to www.bphc.org/summerfitness.
South Boston Girls Softball Update

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY - by Mariella Collins

The South Boston Girls’ Softball League (SBGSL) is on deck for a strong second half of its ninth House League season. After a wet and rainy start, spring continues to gift SBGSL with warm weather and plenty of sunshine - perfect conditions for softball. With over 60 games completed, the talents and skills of the SBGSL’s over 100 players are constantly improving. These girls and young women, ages five to 16, are instructed by a dedicated group of volunteers made up of collegiate softball players, seasoned parents, and friends of the SBGSL community.

Originally developed in 2007 as an intra-community program with players from South Boston and neighboring areas, SBGSL schedules now include games against teams from around the city and Greater Boston area. As the organization promotes a primary focus toward the athletic development of its members, it is also the SBGSL’s goal to introduce and foster social and competitive relationships with players and programs beyond the South Boston community. The SBGSL plays against programs from Charlestown, Roxbury, and Allston-Brighton/Cambridge. The 16 and under travel team also competes in ASA sanctioned tournaments around Eastern New England.

A community organization dedicated to the improvement and progress of its members, SBGSL also looks to contribute to the advancement of softball and the opportunities it provides for young women athletically, socially, and academically. Starting from the Instructional 8 and under program through the current 16 and under travel program, leaders of the SBGSL are constantly working to provide the most common sense, efficient, and effective approaches to coaching players in the game of softball. The SBGSL is working to build strong and sustainable relationships with local organizations such as the South Boston Leadership Initiative to provide mentorships, promote inclusive learning environments, and to offer a wealth of support on and off the field. SBGSL is committed to promoting the positive atmosphere, fun, and competition of softball as it teaches members to live and to play with integrity and good sportsmanship.

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famous American Legion Waltham Band entertained with a full slate of songs and marches.

Matthew Fumarola, a 9th grade student at Roxbury Latin presented a perfect scale model of the heights and monument he painstakingly created and which will be part of a permanent exhibit. The cannon was unveiled to an ovation by Pearl Harbor Navy Veteran Ed Hamilton and South Boston student Andrew Lee. “Taps” was rendered by U. S. Marine veteran Tom Florentino.

The most moving moment occurred when the Waltham Band played a medley of the Armed Services’ songs. Barbara Signor and 4 other women Marines serving during Korea rose first. Next, active duty Boatswain First Class Colin Smith, serving with the Coast Guard in Afghanistan and Iraq, proffered a salute. Viet-Nam Airforce Veteran Lew Kneeeland was gratefully recognized. Again, Viet-Nam veteran John Evans, with grandson John in tow, and Jimmy McCarthy and Army Scout Gary Murad were thanked.

Finally, 93-year-old kamikaze survivor Lt. JG Tom Loftus of the U. S. Navy was joined by Gulf War veteran and Fitzgerald Post Commander Ed Flynn. Those in attendance showed true respect and thanks to the veterans and the veterans were clearly touched and appreciative of their neighbor’s attendance and gesture.

Finally, Julia Mize of the National Parks Service deserves special praise for her efforts in restoring a piece of our history.

SPECIALS of the WEEK

100 shirts
one color print
white shirts - $5.50 ea.
Color shirts - $6.50 ea.

12 shirts
one color print
screen/setup included
$140

12 Pique Cotton polos
Digitized Full Color Logo
(limit 5K embroidered stitches) $350
Add Denali Style Jackets $40 ea.

*ALL SPECIALS INCLUDE SCREEN/SETUP CHARGES, AND FREE CUSTOM ARTWORK.

SPOT CLOTHING

12 shirts
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screen/setup included
$140

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Join Us for Breakfast

SAT & SUN
10AM - 1PM

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

St Peter Academy

Year End Celebration

'Summertime Fun'

At

the Lawn on D

Wednesday June 16, 2016
10:00 am - 2:00 pm

St Peter Academy is celebrating 11 years of service to our community families and children!

A Day of Gratitude, Fun and Entertainment

Program
10:00 am - Community Bingo with Great Prizes
11:15 am - St Peter Academy 'Summertime Fun' Show featuring the Children of St Peter Academy
1:00 pm - Community Picnic and Fun & Games at the Lawn on D

All are Welcome!

St Peter Academy Supporters, Funders & Partners