



Will You Pay To Preserve Housing Affordability?

Sponsored by Councilors Michael Flaherty and Andrea Campbell, Mayor Martin J. Walsh in April of this year announced his support for the Community Preservation Act (CPA). The Community Preservation Act (CPA) is a program created by the state of Massachusetts to enhance livability and quality of life in the cities and towns that vote to adopt it. It creates affordable housing, preserves open space and historic sites, and develops outdoor recreational opportunities through the creation of a local Community Preservation Fund. Passed by the City Council, the proposal will be

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EDITORIAL

“Conclusions”

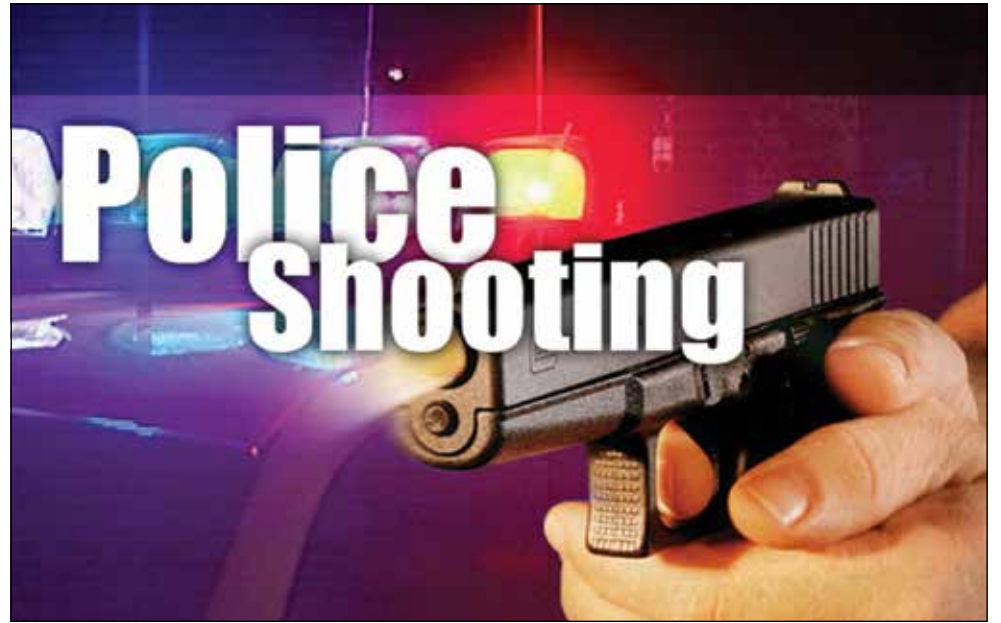
SOUTH BOSTON TODAY -By Staff

Constantly our “betters” are lecturing us not to jump to conclusions. Perhaps that explains why police on an Ivy League campus will no longer declare in their broadcast and description of criminal suspects their color or race. “Be on the lookout for a guy” will soon be standard police procedure.

Unless, of course, the suspect is Muslim. In that case it's OK to say the suspect is “Hispanic looking”, as authorities and me-

dia reported in the Washington State incident, where a Turkish “legal resident” killed five with a rifle. Don't want to jump to conclusions, after all.

It is curious that whenever a police shooting occurs, within minutes, critics, usually with President Obama kicking it off, line up to rail against white cops killing black men. Even when the police officer who is shooting and the victim are both black. Could the black police officer be a racist who hates black people? More likely, could this be jumping to conclusions?



“Autumn is a second spring when every leaf is a flower” - Albert Camus



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The Information Center



Now It's Coloring Books and Crayons for 'Stressed' College Students

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY
John Ciccone

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

It would be difficult to refrain from mentioning this latest development and what will probably be a spreading trend on some of America's liberal college campuses. Difficult because it's actually becoming more comical than the 'Safe Spaces' and the 'Micro-aggressive Triggers Defenses' that have been set up to coddle our modern day 'delicate flower' students. What's even more difficult though, is to be able to mention what's coming next and not be rolling off the chair in a fit of laughter.

Though it is an embarrassment to most of the rugged individuals and proud Americans who make up the majority of residents in the great state of Wyoming, the university there has set up a new program that provides coloring books and crayons to its students. Yes, I said coloring books and

crayons. A San Diego campus is doing the same thing. No surprise there. It is after all California. The coloring books are to 'destress' the students as midterm exams approach. But wait, there's more and it gets even better at Brown University, here in the East.

Brown recently buckled to a group of students who were horrified that a lecture and seminar on 'the rape culture' was going to be held on campus and there may be some speakers who might have a differing view or would speak too frankly on the subject. So, the school's president Ok'd the setting up of a 'Safe Space' for those who were traumatized by the idea that such an event would be taking place. But this was a very special Safe Space – the mother of all Safe Spaces. Here, cookies, coloring books, bubbles, playdoh, calming music, pillows,

blankets and a video about puppies were provided. There are 5 year olds in my family that get the same things in their Kindergarten class rooms.

Many of the nation's colleges and universities are being referred to as nothing more than adult daycare centers, run by crackpot leftist anti-American professors, hell bent on indoctrinating and molding students into those professors' images and ideology. It's now getting so far beyond ridiculous that a growing number of alumni of these schools have just stopped giving donations and grants to them because they are embarrassed. Families in so many cases are going into heavy debt to provide a college education to their children. Many students themselves are in deep financial holes with government loans, in the hope that when they graduate, they'll be well educated and

be able to land that high paying job and make a good living and provide for their future families. What so many are finding is that very often now, they may go in to a college as a bright young person eager to learn, but they come out less mature and even less equipped to deal with the real world than when they first enrolled. It's sad but American Universities are becoming indoctrination centers and maybe no longer worth the time and money.

Touching briefly on the rioting in Charlotte, North Carolina, police sources in that state say that approximately 70% of those arrested in the rioting have out of state addresses and in many cases have been paid to go to that city - allegedly by 'Black Lives Matter' - to raise hell. Who is funding Black Lives Matter? In part,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13

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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.

In Boston, Chang mulls 6-year high schools

Facing volatile enrollment numbers, Boston school officials are weighing whether to create six-year high schools, effectively eliminating the middle-school distinction, in a move that has raised concerns from some advocates, James Vaznis of the Globe reports. The move is meant to address declining enrollment in the middle school grades, a drop at least in part attributable to the growth of charter schools in the city.

Feds cite discrimination at Latin, but no crime

Boston Latin School violated the Civil Rights Act at least once amid a climate of racial discrimination and harassment, U.S. Attorney Carmen Ortiz said in a

report released Monday, but no one will face criminal charges as a result, the Globe reports. The violation came in connection with the school's lax handling of a report that a male student had threatened a black female student with lynching. Ortiz also cited some changes already put in place as positive moves in the 13-page report.

Meanwhile, Boston Latin received a second dose of bad news in the form of a downgrade in its status. TheHerald's Dan Atkinson reports that both Boston Latin School and Boston Latin Academy were downgraded from Level 1 to Level 2 schools, mainly because of insufficient participation in a new testing program. Mayor Marty Walsh blasted the move and called on parents to express their dismay directly to state officials. "I am not happy

about this, the people of Boston should not be happy about this," Walsh said.

'Quite a bit of grumbling from the Brits about Brexit'

British foreign secretary Boris Johnson blew into Boston late last week on a low-key visit, meeting with Gov. Charlie Baker (as the governor noted on Twitter) and attending various events in the city, including a cocktail reception hosted by Standard Life Investments at One Beacon Street. Our spy says Johnson, who backed the campaign for Britain to leave the European Union, was a hit at the reception. "He was very witty, the crowd was with him even if, after he spoke, there was quite a bit of grumbling from the Brits about Brexit."

Taxi industry targets state in lawsuit over new Uber law

In case you missed it, a Boston taxi-driver group late last week filed a federal lawsuit against Gov. Charlie Baker and other state officials over the new law governing the operations of Uber, Lyft and other ride-sharing companies, reports Greg Ryan at the Boston Business Journal. In particular, the group is peeved that cabs can still be regulated by local towns and cities, but Uber et gang answer exclusively to the state.

On the Cape, early voting vexes

Town clerks on Cape Cod are readying for the state's first pass at allowing early voting but don't know what to expect, Geoff Spillane of the Cape Cod Times reports. Falmouth Town Clerk Michael Palmer has laid out plans to staff early voting stations but admits he's not sure whether the election workers will be serving long lines of voters or "reading books." Other clerks say the early voting will create additional work for officials as they must reconcile voter lists over the weekend before the Nov. 8 election.

Tourism drives Cape Ann job growth

State workforce numbers show tourism drove a surge in seasonal employment in Gloucester and surrounding Cape Ann communities, where unemployment fell to a nine-year low, Ray Lamont of the Gloucester Times reports. The opening of the Beaufort Hotel Gloucester alone added 200 jobs.

Marijuana money madness

About \$115,000 of the \$2.5 million raised in support of Question 4, which would legalize recreational pot in Massachusetts, has come from sources already engaged in selling medical marijuana, Jordan Graham of the Herald reports, citing campaign finance records. A Boston-based medical marijuana consultancy and companies that operate dispensaries in Colorado and elsewhere are among those who have contributed to Yes on 4. Meanwhile, Isaiah Thompson of WGBH reports that opponents of the pot question are upset that 90 percent of the funds raised by those pushing the initiative have come from outside of the state.

Twofer: Warren against charter question, Baker against slots parlor question

Even though she's been a big proponent of school vouchers in the past, U.S. Sen. Elizabeth Warren has come out against the November ballot question that would lift the cap on charter schools, reports the Herald's O'Ryan Johnson. Her pronouncement came amidst growing criticism from anti-charter forces that she wasn't taking a clear stand on the ballot issue. "Many charter schools in Massachusetts are producing extraordinary results for our students," Warren said in a statement. "But after hearing more from both sides, I am very concerned about what this specific proposal means for hundreds of thousands of children across our Commonwealth."

Meanwhile, Gov. Charlie Baker, who happens to be a big proponent of charter school expansion, came out yesterday against a ballot question that would allow an additional slots parlor in the state, reports Katie Lannan at State House News Service. But he said he still hasn't made up his mind about the Question 3 ballot initiative that would restrict farm animal confinement in Massachusetts. "As I understand this one, it's a much bigger issue for purchasers in Massachusetts than it is for farmers in Massachusetts," Baker said. "While I worry a little bit about what that might mean to the cost of eggs here in the commonwealth, I'm quite sympathetic to the perspective that's being offered by the Yes on Question 3 people."

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Reading Between The Lines

“A Ray of Sunshine”

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY
Brian R. Mahoney

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

Previously this space has discussed the zoning law known as Article 68. This law was the result of nearly two years of constant meetings between residents and members of the BRA. The purpose was to return First Street to its original residential status and to set the guide lines for doing so. A primary goal, however, was to eliminate the granting of variances. A variance is the granting of an exception to current rules. It is usually the reason we, as residents, are constantly being asked to attend, yet another, community meeting to hear yet another development proposal and yet another developer asking to be allowed to build “outside” of allowed zoning.

Now variances are not necessarily always a bad thing, if a hardship exists. The fact that a developer wants to make more money is not a hardship deserving of a variance. Parents seeking an addition to give a son and daughter their own bedroom, probably would be a viable hardship for a variance to build perhaps a dormer.

The right to apply for a variance cannot be eliminated. Everyone has the right of appeal. They can however be limited. As the Mass Supreme Court has written, “a variance should only be granted in exceedingly rare circumstances demonstrating hardship”. The Residential Article 68 was to serve as the new message of the BRA that variances would no longer be supported and that developers would be put on notice that building within the zoning is all that would be supported. This was important, because the city was about to embark and is presently engaged in discussion to re-zone all of South Boston. Community groups have been constantly reassured, as

we were on Article 68, that support of this re-zoning effort would result in a “message delivered to developers” that they must build within zoning and this would eliminate the vast majority of community meetings.

The danger, of course, is, if the city doesn’t vigorously follow through in opposing variances, as promised, the end result of rezoning would simply be to give developers a larger footprint to start from and still seek variances to build even larger. So that was the background, as I along with real abutters, sat in City Hall at the Zoning Board of Appeals awaiting a hearing on a proposal for “F” and First Streets. A proposal seeking variances under the new Article 68 zoning. Regular readers may recall an article about 2 years ago praising the ZBA Board. An article that generated a few people taking the opposite position and criticizing this column’s praise.

Without reprinting the entire article, a summation would be that the ZBA position is thankless, but needed and performed exceptionally well by the present body and, in most cases, their predecessors. One complaint is that residents are seemingly constantly overruled in favor of deep pocket developers. In truth, it only seems that way. The reality is that every proposal is looked at in the depth and the detail required in the hope of making the correct decision.

The project has to be weighed against the best interests of the city’s future, including tax base created on one hand and, on the other perhaps more important factor, of how will it affect the quality of life of those, who actually live and bear the impact. It is not always easy or an open and shut case. Obviously one side or the other

will always be unhappy.

This proposal had all the usual elements: the wealthy developer, architects, lawyers, real estate agents, versus the “Mouthies from Southie” community organizations operating with hand printed flyers and meetings in Church basements. Overwhelming, but never impossible odds. When you give up and quit the wealthy people win.

Every once in a while, by refusing to surrender, you stand a chance. In this case, on behalf of the South

Boston Community, an acknowledgement of thanks to the ZBA Board, the Mayor’s office of Neighborhood services and City Councilors Bill Linehan and Michael Flaherty. The “F” and First Street proposal is dead and Article 68 is intact, giving comfort to those relying on the same adherence to be given to the new zoning proposals for residential South Boston.

Sometimes the system does work and today a little ray of sunshine from the ZBA followed.

Take care till next week.

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BPS Celebrates Twelve Schools Rising to Level 1 Status



Working toward closing the achievement gap in the Boston Public Schools, several schools around the city demonstrated improved performance in various key assessments, according to the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) 2016 accountability results.

Altogether, 12 schools in the Boston Public Schools system this year rose to top Level 1 status for meeting assessment targets, bringing the total number of BPS schools presently in that top accountability level to 21. In addition, BPS now has 25 schools designated as Level 2. The combined 46 schools in either Level 1 and 2 are the most for the district since 2012.

The newly designated Level 1 schools include: Boston Arts Academy, Boston International and Newcomers Academy (BINcA), Bradley Elementary, Fenway High, Harvard/Kent Elementary, Umana Academy, McKay K-8, Mildred Avenue K-8, Mozart Elementary, New Mission High, Otis Elementary, and Quincy Elementary.

“Our top priority is creating a public school system that gives all of our young people an opportunity to succeed,” Mayor Martin J. Walsh said. “I am proud of the improvements we have made across so many of our schools as a result of the hard work of our students, teachers and staff. We will continue working everyday so that every single one of our schools has the resources to prepare our students for a bright future.”

“Our most improved schools are serving some of our most vulnerable

populations, which shows that Boston Public Schools is a leader in this work,” Boston School Committee Chairperson Michael O’Neill said. “Our teachers in all of our schools are fearless in tackling challenges and doing everything possible to close the opportunity and achievement gaps.”

Guided by BPS’ three core values of equity, coherence and innovation, schools are continuing to find ways to support students throughout the district.

“Our schools are empowering talented teams of educators who consistently collaborate to ensure every student succeeds,” BPS Superintendent Tommy Chang said. “Our newly designated Level 1 schools serve as bright spots for the district as we enhance student achievement.”

PARCC, MCAS, and ACCESS Scores

The district also saw improvement in its PARCC (Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers, MCAS (MA Comprehensive Assessment System), and ACCESS (Assessing Comprehension and Communication in English State to State for English Language Learners) scores.

The English Language Arts proficiency rates for all 10th-grade BPS students on MCAS improved to 83 percent, part of a promising 19-percentage point increase since 2009. Proficiency rates improved across most subgroups, including economically disadvantaged students, English Language Learners (ELLs), and students with disabilities.

The increase in the percentage of ELLs scoring Proficient or Advanced on MCAS jumped 7 percentage points in 2016 to 58 percent, making the proficiency rate 42 percentage points higher than in 2009. In addition, 61 percent of ELLs made progress toward attaining English language proficiency, as measured by preliminary results from the ACCESS for ELLs Assessment. The median student growth percentile for ACCESS (SGPA) was 60 in 2016, indicating “high growth,” continuing an upward trend of a 50 SGPA in 2014 and 54 in 2015.

Grade 10 Black and Hispanic students also experienced gains in 10th-grade ELA MCAS in the 2015-16 school year, helping to close the achievement gap. The proficiency achievement gap in ELA between White and Latino students shrunk from 16 percentage points in 2015 to 10 percentage points in 2016, while the gap between White and African American/Black students narrowed from 15 percentage points to 7 percentage points during that same period.

In the lower grades, the district also continued an improvement trend. The percentage of grade 3-8 students in the district “meeting” or “exceeding expectations” on PARCC increased from the prior year, rising to 40 percent in ELA and 37 percent in Mathematics.

But School Accountability Results Also Include Setbacks

While a number of Boston Public Schools have made significant strides in student testing, some have experienced setbacks. Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) has chosen to move Brighton High School and Excel High School in South Boston into Level 4 status, which will require the Superintendent and his team to develop turnaround plans for rapid improvement at both schools.

The Mattahunt Elementary School in Mattapan has been deemed “Level 4 -- under review.” Mattahunt has been in Level 4 status for the past three years and has not experienced the rapid improvement necessary in order to exit that status. The district

awaits further communication from DESE Commissioner Mitchell Chester and his team regarding next steps.

The English High School, which had made significant gains in MCAS scores in the 2014-15 school year, did not improve enough this past school year to exit Level 4 status. The state moved the school into underperforming status in 2010. Any Level 4 designation is at the discretion of the DESE commissioner.

Additionally, the accountability levels for Boston Latin School, Boston Latin Academy, and Clap Innovation School dropped from Level 1 to Level 2 because each school tested less than 95 percent of students in one or more student subgroups, in one or more subjects. In order for a school to be classified as Level 1 - in addition to meeting gap-narrowing targets for all students and “high needs” student groups - the test participation rate for all groups in the school must be 95 percent or higher.

For Boston Latin School, White students had test participation rates of 94 percent in ELA and 93 percent in Mathematics. The low participation rate for the White student subgroup in both subjects is primarily due to 13 students whose parents/guardians requested that their children be opted out from PARCC testing and two students who were absent during PARCC testing due to medical reasons.

At Boston Latin Academy, students with disabilities had a PARCC test participation rate of 97 percent in ELA and 90 percent in Mathematics. The low participation rate is due to absences from three out of 29 students in the students with disabilities group.

For the Clap School, two out of 29 students did not take the PARCC ELA test, resulting in a 93 percent assessment participation rate, which is below the 95 percent threshold.

Boston Public Schools has formally appealed to DESE to reconsider the lower classifications of Boston Latin School and Boston Latin Academy, at the request of those schools.



SEN. FORRY, REP. COLLINS PUSH FOR BUS SERVICE IMPROVEMENTS

State Senator Linda Dorcea Forry and State Representative Nick Collins continue to press the MBTA to improve service and efficiency on bus routes in South Boston. Since public meetings held last year on bus service they have urged the MBTA to explore several recommendations to increase efficiency and reliability of buses in South Boston.

First, they have requested that the MBTA revitalize the City Point Bus Terminal on East First Street to accommodate passenger platforms and other amenities.

The terminal is currently underutilized and could greatly improve system-wide service if renovated. Furthermore, easements purchased by MassPort recently provided the MBTA with \$7 million which could be leveraged for these crucial improvements.

Secondly, Forry and Collins requested that the MBTA review the Number 7 Bus, including an examination of express service to South Station. In one potential new configuration, express buses would travel from the City Point

Terminal down East First Street and turn onto Summer Street with stops at the Boston Convention & Exhibition Center and South Station, relieving congestion, reducing wait times, and improving service and reliability.

“The overcrowding plus long waits for the number 7 bus are a problem and remain a top priority,” said Senator Forry. “Rep. Collins and I are working on creative solutions to allocate resources to improve MBTA service in South Boston,” she concluded.

“These improvements would

have the added benefit of attracting riders to a central hub, which will relieve overcrowding at local street corners by fixing the problem at its source. We need action from the MBTA now. People can’t wait any longer,” said Rep. Collins.

A public meeting schedule has been requested for this fall to solicit feedback from riders on service changes. This initiative is the first of a three-part plan by Sen. Forry and Rep. Collins, as they focus on the MBTA, MassDOT, and transportation infrastructure upgrades in South Boston. In the coming weeks the lawmakers will address plans for upgrading Kosciuszko Circle and improving financial sustainability system-wide.



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56 P Street One Family	\$900,000	8/15/16	6	3.1	2160
390 K St UNIT 1 Condo	\$890,000	8/12/16	7	2	1850
77 Dresser St UNIT 77 Condo	\$870,000	8/17/16	5	2.5	1780
474 East Seventh Street Two Family	\$820,000	8/10/16	9	2	2252
141 Dorchester Ave UNIT 504 Condo	\$760,000	8/9/16	2	1	969
129 M St UNIT 2 Condo	\$735,000	8/18/16	5	2.5	1232
735 East Third St UNIT 1 Condo	\$700,000	8/10/16	5	2	1204
141 Dorchester Ave UNIT LW203 Condo	\$693,500	8/18/16	2	1	945
52 Gates St UNIT 1 Condo	\$650,000	8/15/16	5	1.5	1071
539 East Seventh St UNIT 2 Condo	\$635,000	8/11/16	6	1	1025
180 Gold St UNIT 1 Condo	\$560,000	8/17/16	4	1	806
428 East Eighth St UNIT 1 Condo	\$550,000	8/18/16	4	1.5	1039
182 West Ninth St UNIT 3 Condo	\$505,000	8/14/16	4	1	675
222 West Seventh St UNIT 3 Condo	\$499,617	8/12/16	4	1	860
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PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

At this meeting the Boston Redevelopment Authority will present the proposed new zoning for South Boston that will go before the Boston Zoning Commission.

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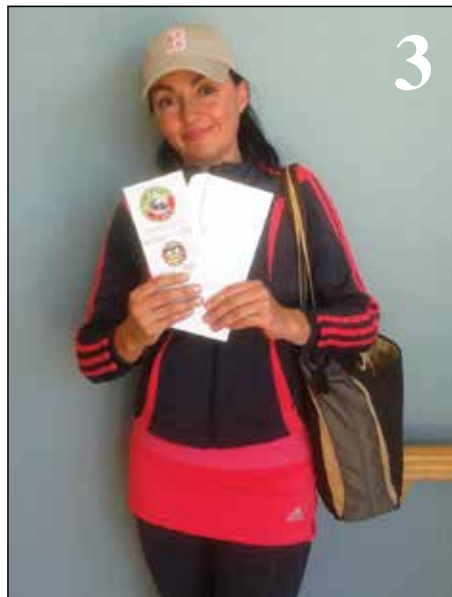
Teresa Polhemus, Executive Director/Secretary



1



2



3

1. Amanda Garces of South Boston was the grand prize winner of the Notre Dame Education Center's raffle at the South Boston Street Festival. She's headed to Cape Cod for a getaway for two, provided by the Bayside Resort.

2. South Boston resident Ann Brady won an L.L. Bean tote bag full of goodies from the Notre Dame Education Center at the South Boston Street Festival.

3. Betty Duenas of Winthrop won a gift certificate to Blasi's Deli from the Notre Dame Education Center at the South Boston Street Festival.

Winners of Notre Dame Ed. Center Raffle

The Notre Dame Education Center has announced the winners of the raffle that was held at the South Boston Street Festival on Saturday.

The grand prize -- a weekend for two at the Bayside Resort in Falmouth -- was won by Amanda Garces of South Boston. Ann Brady, also of South Boston, won an L.L. Bean tote bag full of NDEC promotional items. Betty Duenas of Winthrop won a gift certificate to Blasi's Deli.

Located in South Boston, the Notre Dame Education Center is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that has

been providing goal-driven education for adults and youth since 1992. Three departments offer a wide range of classes and programs, complemented by a variety of customized counseling and support.

- The Adult Education Services Department offers programs in Adult Basic Education and HiSET Preparation (HiSET is the high-school equivalency test that replaced the GED in Massachusetts), and English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL).

- The Youth Education Services Department offers a High School

Diploma Program and HiSET and Postsecondary Preparation.

- The Workforce Readiness and Career Pathways Model Department's mission is to provide students with the employability and career-specific training that will enable them to succeed in the highly competitive Boston job market.

In addition, NDEC offers the Student Opportunities Initiative, Cyber Café, Distance and Online Learning, and Citizenship Preparation. For more information, contact the Center at 617-268-1912, or visit the web site <http://www.ndecboston.org>

Amanda Garces of South Boston was the grand prize winner of the Notre Dame Education Center's raffle at the South Boston Street Festival. She's headed to Cape Cod for a getaway for two, provided by the Bayside Resort.

South Boston resident Ann Brady won an L.L. Bean tote bag full of goodies from the Notre Dame Education Center at the South Boston Street Festival.

Betty Duenas of Winthrop won a gift certificate to Blasi's Deli from the Notre Dame Education Center at the South Boston Street Festival.



PINWHEELS FOR PEACE Imagine... "Whirled Peace"

This past week, South Boston Catholic Academy Students in grades pre-school through grade 6 took part in an International art project, Pinwheels for Peace by "planting" pinwheels

with messages of peace in front of our school.

Pinwheels for Peace is an art installation project started in 2005 by two Art teachers, Ann Ayers and Ellen McMillan, of Coconut Creek,

Florida, as a way for students to express their feelings about what's going on in the world and in their lives. In the first year, groups in over 1,325 locations throughout the world were spinning pinwheels.

Last year (year 10), over 4.5 million pinwheels were spinning in over 3,500 locations, including the United States, Europe, Asia, Australia, Canada, the Middle East, Africa and South America.



The SBT Guide to Fall Foliage Viewing: *Where and When To Go*

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY - Staff Report

The passing of summer sometimes brings a bit of sadness to people who really enjoy spending their free time outdoors. We tend to get used to the easy living and all those activities that the warm months encourage. The good thing is, to many, that sadness doesn't last all that long because once late September hits and especially when we roll into October, New England explodes into a kaleidoscope of magnificent colors as the leaves turn into one of nature's wonders and we still have a good dose of nice weather. That's right, it's fall foliage time and 'leaf peepers' are in their glory. And autumn 2016 should be a good season.

The Northeastern part of the United States is among the most picturesque areas in the world this time of year. When peak foliage hits, and

it comes in waves; depending on what part of the area, enjoying one of the season's best features is anywhere from a 20-minute drive to the edge of the Blue Hills just outside of Boston to a weekend getaway to the Maine Wilderness; whatever makes you happy. While some have their favorite spots to view autumn's splendor, others are always looking for suggestions as to where they can see the best colors and really get into the spirit. For those of you who DO want some suggestions, South Boston Today might be able to help. SBT has spoken with the experts on the subject and we've compiled a listing of the best places to view the brilliant colors and when to be there at peak times.

The following locations are said to be some of the best places to see the brightest colors of the season.

Baxter State Forest, Maine: If you like long drives into some of

the Northeast's true wilderness, and it's soon you want to make the trip, Baxter State Forest in the state of Maine is one of the finest locales around for early leaf watching. It's a long drive; between 5 and 7 hours; not usually something you'd want to do on a day trip. This may require at least two days; preferably a full weekend or more. There are many package deals and bus trips that will make it a great vacation destination. This is also a good place to view wildlife as the area is teeming with moose, deer and black bears. It's a great place to watch birds as the eagle and hawk populations there are thriving. And the scenery is breathtaking. Thick forests, rivers and lakes fill thousands of square miles of beauty. And the colors; in early October are incredible. The area peaks early. Now is the time to go.

White Mountains, New Hampshire: When the calendar pushes

deeper into October, New Hampshire's White Mountains come alive with brilliant red, orange and yellow trees looking almost like a sunburst. Many believe this area is by far the best in the entire United States for viewing foliage. This is a trip that can be made in just 3 hours to get the best effect. The ride up along Routes 93 and 95 will show some great color once you get into the higher elevations. But if you want to see the White Mountain's color at its absolute best, take some of the smaller country roads and really be impressed. The small towns along the way will often have Fall Festivals to add to the experience and this is an area too where the odds of seeing deer and other wildlife are very good. The best time for foliage viewing in the White Mountain's area is usually around the Columbus Day weekend during typical years.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13

TYNAN HAPPENINGS

COMPLETE AFTER SCHOOL TIME

Once again the Tynan Community Center is offering the CAST Program. This program will be offered Monday through Friday, from 2:30-6:00pm for boys and girls ages 6-12. Spaces are still available. There will be a weekly fee of \$20. Program will offer tutoring/homework help, Arts & Crafts, board games, athletic activities in the gym, as well as a daily nutritional snack. There is no transportation available. If you have any further questions, please contact the Commu-

nity Center office @ (617)-635-5110.

FALL GYM PROGRAMS

TOTS GYM

Tots gym is for boys and girls, ages 4-6. This program will be held on Monday and Thursday afternoon, from 3:00pm to 4:00pm. The participants will enjoy free play time followed by simple game activities that will help develop their motor skills but most importantly have fun while keeping active and learning new games. There is an annual membership fee of \$5 for the year. If interested stop by on Monday or Thursday to register. Spaces are still available.

JUNIOR GYM

Junior gym is for boys and girls, ages 7-11. Classes will be held on Monday and Thursdays 4-5 pm. The children

will enjoy playing various recreational games, such as Medic, Dodgeball, Kickball, Capture the Flag and much more. There will be a \$5 membership required. Stop by Monday or Thursday to register.

FLAG FOOTBALL LEAGUE/CLINIC

Registration and Flag Football Clinic will begin Tuesday, October 4th at 3:30 for boys and girls, ages 7-11. We will conduct a 4-week clinic and form teams for our annual Flag Football League, which will begin November 1st. A \$5 membership fee is required.

TEEN PROGRAMS

We are in the process planning a teen boys' flag football league on Fridays. Stop by and register with Greg in the gym. Katie O'Connell is working on

a Fitness and Conditioning Class for Teen Girls Only. The Tynan is also process of locating an area for a Teen Center we hope to open very soon. Please watch the Tynan Happenings for further information.

ADULT COED VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE

Our annual Coed Volleyball League will tentatively begin its season on October 27th. Games will be played on Thursday evenings. We are looking for individual players who would like to participate in the recreation league to fill some empty slots on existing teams. If you are interested, please contact Kathy Davis at the Community Center @ (617) 635-5110. Please watch for further information on practice times and information.



Italian Pride Day at the Beach

It used to be held on a warm August Evening, but due to scheduled renovations at Medal of Honor Park at M Street, the South Boston Italian Pride Night/Day Festival was moved to the Family Beach on the M Street side of the Curley Recreation Center. Sponsored by Mayor Mar-

tin Walsh and the City of Boston the day went off on schedule and welcomed South Boston's Italian American residents and on this day as it is each year, everyone was Italian.

There was music and the awesome treats from the famous Sau-
CONTINUED ON page 13





ITALIAN PRIDE
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

sage Guy who is known best for serving up the best sausage, peppers and onions around. The weather was a bit chilly with a brisk wind coming off the water, but it was invigorating and added to the atmosphere. Happy faces were in abundance. 'Puo Dio benedica tutti'.

JOHN CICCONE
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

billionaire George Soros according to reports. For those who don't know who George Soros is, he's one of Hillary Clinton's biggest supporters. The tactic is being called 'rent a riot'.

As far as the rioting is concerned – nothing says social justice like looting businesses and burning cars.

Locally, if you read last week's South Boston Today, you know that the neighborhood is putting together a friendship party for two good people

who are going through some trying times. Karen and Benny Fiasconaro will be honored on Friday, October 21st at Florian Hall in Dorchester. It begins at 7pm. Tickets, which are just \$20, can be bought in advance from the committee members whose names and

contact info appear on posters all over town or you can pay at the door the night of the party. There will be dancing with live music and a DJ too and best of all it's a night out with good friends and neighbors helping a great couple in a time of need. What could be better?

HOUSING AFFORDABILITY
CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

on the November ballot.

"Our city is growing and thriving, but success has brought challenges with housing costs being one of the greatest," said Mayor Walsh at the time. "We've studied the impacts and benefits, and I believe the Community Preservation Act offers a balanced and timely strategy for helping Boston build affordable housing, invest in our parks, and preserve Boston's historic and inclusive character."

The statute allows for communities to exempt the first \$100,000 of value for all properties, and the majority of new revenue would

come from commercial properties. In addition to funds raised by the surcharge, the CPA statute created a statewide Community Preservation Trust Fund, administered by the Department of Revenue. This fund provides matching distributions of funds each year to communities that have adopted CPA.

New City revenue from the surcharge is estimated to be \$16.5 million annually, and is expected to leverage millions more in state funding every year. To determine which projects will receive funding, upon adoption of the Act, Boston would create a Community Preservation Committee. This five-to-nine members board

will make recommendations on CPA projects to the City Council. This committee would include at least one member each representing the interests of the Conservation Commission, the Landmarks Commission, Boston's planning department, the Parks Commission, and the Housing Cabinet.

If adopted in Boston, the average single-family homeowner will pay \$23 per year, or \$2 per month towards their local Community Preservation fund. In turn, the city could generate up to \$20 million every year for CPA projects. How would the CPA impact historic preservation in Boston? CPA funds can be used for anything from helping a small business

owner restore her historic storefront, to assisting an iconic neighborhood church fix its crumbling steeple, to supporting an historic theater that is a community asset.

The CPA by the numbers*

- **Adopted by 158 cities and towns in Massachusetts so far**
- **8,500 affordable housing units created and/or rehabilitated**
- **3,600 historic preservation projects funded**
- **1,250 recreation projects funded**
- **21,800 acres of open space**
- **\$1.4 billion raised for affordable housing, park development and the rehabilitation of historic buildings**

*Source: Boston Preservation Alliance

FALL FOLIAGE
CONTINUED FROM page 11

Woodstock, Vermont: Peak viewing for the Woodstock, Vermont area is probably also right around the Columbus Day weekend. Here the Billings Farm and Museum gives an added attraction. You not only get to see the autumn leaves in all their glory but you get a taste of the Revolutionary War era culture that still holds on here. Old farm houses and country stores make you feel like you're visiting a bygone era. A drive through the forest lined roads leading to and from Woodstock can put you in awe of nature and make you forget the fast pace of the city while you're there. And yes, here

too, wildlife is abundant but you get to see many horse and dairy farms as well.

Berkshire Mountains, Western Massachusetts: You don't have to travel north to see the sights of the season. A trip west, here in the Bay State will bring all the colors and festive autumn feel as the northern states do. The drive or bus trip a few hours along Route 2 heading west in mid to late October is absolutely beautiful. The farther west you go the higher the elevation becomes until you are in the Berkshire Mountains with all its scenic views. If you travel far enough, you'll come to the Mohawk Trail area known worldwide as a destination to many tourists looking for

that special fall atmosphere with all its history even before the American Revolution. This is an area rich in farmland and dotted with lakes and ponds. The apple picking is excellent here. Orchards are everywhere and the sweet aroma from those apples will make you want to bite into one.

Blue Hills, Canton/Milton, MA: And finally, if you want to get to see the fall foliage but really don't want to spend too much time getting to where the peak sights are, as we mentioned early on, there is always the Blue Hills, just a 20 minute trip from Boston. The colors in the Blue Hills peak late in the season, so when other more distant areas have become past peak and faded, the

Blue Hills, especially along Chica-tawbut Rd. are still bright and fresh. In fact, some years you can still see great foliage in the Blue Hills as late as Halloween and beyond.

Well, there you have it folks. South Boston Today's picks for fall foliage viewing in 2016 for those who love being outdoors and seeing Mother Nature at her best this time of year. We hope these tips are helpful and that if you go, you have a great time. Oh, and be sure to bring a camera or iPhone—the former not for staring into a screen and missing out on the real sights, but for capturing photos of some of the most beautiful scenery in the world.

South Boston Pop Warner Weekend Update – Week 4

It was another big weekend for the Fighting Irish on Saturday in Southie. Our F teams played on Saturday at noon with a lot of great talent coming up in the system. It is great to see the F teams play each other.

Our E team played Falmouth at 4:00 PM with the hopes of keeping their undefeated season on a roll. And that's exactly what they got. They won 26-6. Aidan Colton scored on a nice pass from Evan Pierce. Derek Austin barreled in

from the 1-yard line for a touchdown. James Neff scored on a sneak from the 6-yard line. James Possehl scored for South Boston. The South Boston defense played lights out. The South Boston E team's record is 4-0.

Our D team was up next at 5:30 PM also against Falmouth. The D team looking for a win played their best game of the season. The entire team played great on both offense and defense. Michael Bailey and Ryan MacDonald had touchdowns

for South Boston. The final score was South Boston 26-0.

The last game of the night was our Unlimited A team against Dedham's Unlimited A Team. The A team was looking to keep their unbeaten season going. The Fighting Irish offense took control of the game early and never looked back. It was another strong win for the A team. The win brought their record to 4-0. The final score was 26-8.

It is hard to believe but we are headed into our 5th week of the

season and it will be our last home for the 2016 season. This Saturday, October 1st our F kids will start the day at 2:30 PM. The E team will play Ashland at 4 PM. The D team will play Ashland at 5:30 PM. Our A team will play at 7 PM against Mansfield. It should be another great Saturday of football. Come on down and see some great youth football and get ready for the Pats game on Sunday against the Bills.

Nothing's better than football in the fall.

SOUTH BOSTON YOUTH SOCCER

Can't believe three weeks have gone by in the season. The kids seem to be having a great time. What a wonderful weekend! Just a couple of reminders before we begin a recap of the weekend's games that we have score sheets for.

COACHES: Remember it is important to turn in score sheets. If you do not pass one in there will not be any write up for your team and that is not fair to the children who show up week after week or the Sponsors. Remember all score sheets must be turned in by Monday morning at the latest. Also please fill all score sheets out correctly. If a coach is having a parent help them out every week, then that person must fill out a CORI form. For the coaches who have the last game in the Under 12 Division on Saturday and the Under 8 Division on Sunday, please remember to put the equipment away. Also make sure there is no parent or children (that are not playing the game) near the nets during the game. It is a distraction for the goalie.

PARENTS: Remember all children need to wear shin guards. If your child does not have them, they can not play. No hats, or jewelry can be worn while playing – this is for the safety of the children.

NO SMOKING IN THE STADIUM. IF YOU FEEL YOU NEED TO HAVE A CIGARETTE FOR THE HOUR YOU ARE THERE, YOU NEED TO BE AWAY FROM THE FIELD.

Also, if you have any problems at the field, please see one of the officers

of the league and we will take care of all concerns immediately.

SNACK BAR: Please patronize the snack bar. All monies that are brought in at the snack bar go right back to the local sports teams that use the park, which helps defray some of the expenses to the league.

And now on to a recap of the games:

UNDER 4 DIVISION:

At the time of print no score sheets were available from the teams sponsored by: Sullivan's at Castle Island, John Hancock Insurance, Councilor Bill Linehan, Boston Police Athletic League (PAL), South Boston Today, Lovey's League, The Matthew Coyne Club, and Congressman Stephen Lynch.

UNDER 6 DIVISION:

At the time of print score sheets were not available for the teams sponsored by: Councilor Michael Flaherty, Boston Firefighters Local #718, Martin F. McDonough Post Women's Auxiliary, Metro Energy, East Boston Savings Bank and J. F. O'Brien & Sons.

UNDER 8 DIVISION:

At the time of print score sheets were not available for the teams sponsored by The Michael J. Perkins Post #67, Billy Flaherty's Gang, O'Connell Insurance and Southie's Own.

UNDER 10 DIVISION:

BLUE TORNADOS 3 ABACUS 2

The Blue Tornados sponsored by the Jimmy Cahill Club kicked in one better than their opponent for the win. Iris Gjoka scored a pair of goals and Aiden Martin kicked in a single goal. Ryan



McGarrell played a super game in net. Paul Downy and Jonathan McCarthy were awesome on offense.

At the time of print no score sheets were available for the teams sponsored by South Boston Dental Associates, Abacus Builders and Ironworkers Local #7

UNDER 12 DIVISION:

REVS 3

KNIGHTS 2

The Revs sponsored by Massport played a great game and just squeaked by with a win with the help of Stephen Flynn scoring a pair of goals and Kevin Ndrekas scoring a single goal. The defensive line of Madison O'Brien, Lia Blythe and Molly Keenan played a terrific game.

In the third game of the season the players have begun to show their soccer skills and the rust has worn off. The Yankee Bus Line "Knights" lost a very well played game. Meghan Harrison played goalie the first half for the Knights and she was excellent only allowing one goal then in the second half Meghan made some great plays on the field. There were no subs on the bench for the Knights and all the players played the entire game with no rest and they played great the entire game. Bella Thomas, Aidan Young and Eric Dhamo all took turns play-

ing goalie in the second half. Aidan and Eric each allowed one goal, but all three made some terrific saves as well. The Knights defense pairing of Jack Downey and Declan Donoghue played a fantastic game working well together and they both made some big plays. In midfield Dylan Bednarik played a very good game and made some nice plays with the ball. Aidan Young played a great game up and down both ends of the field and he scored one goal on a great individual effort and also did a good job defending the other team's key players. Bella Thomas scored the second goal after receiving a beautiful pass from Aidan Young. Bella used her head to settle the ball and made a nice rush around a defender and beat the goalie on a perfectly placed kick from five yards out. The game was well played by both teams and after the Knights tied the game both teams had some chances to score the winning goal, but with only several minutes left in the game the oppositions forwards were able to score on a rebound after Eric Dhamo made a great save on the initial shot on goal. Both teams showed great sportsmanship after a tough fought game.

At the time of print no score sheets were available for the teams sponsored by Stapleton Florist and Deco Leasing.



This week,
Danny gave
"Pic's Picks"
for Week 4 in
the NFL:

CAROLINA PANTHERS (-3) over Atlanta Falcons

-Hard to believe the reigning NFC Champion Carolina Panthers are 1-2 to begin the season, coming off a frustrating 22-10 loss to the undefeated Minnesota Vikings, at Carolina, in Week 3. The Panthers' other loss came in Denver, 21-20, in Week 1, as their kicker missed a 50-yard field goal to end the game. Considering both Denver and Minnesota are two of the five remaining undefeated teams in the NFL through Week 3, things might not be as bad as they seem for Cam Newton and company. Expect them to put up at least 30 in Atlanta. And if the Panthers can play any defense at all in this one, they should be able to win by at least a touchdown. The Falcons are coming off a 45-32 win in New Orleans on Monday night. They've now won two straight, both on the road. Atlanta's only home game was a 31-24 loss in Week 1 to Tampa Bay. As good as Matt Ryan's offense has looked in the last two weeks, there's no reason Carolina can't regain its defensive confidence and get back on top the NFC South.

TENNESSEE TITANS (+6.5) over Houston Texans

-As I make these picks on Tuesday night, reports of J.J. Watt possibly being shut down for the season are running wild on social media. Full disclosure though, I was taking the Tennessee Titans anyways. I was eyeing the Titans before this news, when they were a 7-point underdog. Now, it's down to 6.5, and perhaps it gets lower than that. But that's the spread I see, so I'm taking

it. Houston is coming off of a Thursday night game in which it got embarrassed by the Jacoby Brissett led New England Patriots, 27-0. Tennessee is coming off a 17-10 loss to the Oakland Raiders, but the Titans' 1-2 record isn't necessarily a good indicator as to what type of team they are this season. And with Houston allowing 125 rush yards per game this season, it could be a big day for DeMarco Murray. At first, I thought Titans would at least cover. Without Watt? They might go into Houston and win the game.

OAKLAND RAIDERS (+3.5) over Baltimore Ravens

-Baltimore is one of those teams this season where, you're scrolling through the NFL standings while eating a Keefe Special at Mirisola's, you see the Ravens are 3-0, and some penne alla vodka sauce comes out of your nose. "How? Who did they? What?" Yeah, you read that right. And get a napkin to wipe your face while you're at it. The Baltimore Ravens are one of five undefeated teams remaining in the NFL. They've defeated the Buffalo Bills, Cleveland Browns, and Jacksonville Jaguars. Not exactly three Super Bowl contenders. And now, the Ravens host the 2-1 Oakland Raiders, who have won both of their road games this season: in New Orleans and Tennessee. The Raiders finally got some defense in a 17-10 win over the Titans last week. And Derek Carr seems poised to improve on an impressive second NFL season, where he threw 32 touchdown passes last year. Carr has thrown five

touchdowns and has just one interception through the first three games. If you haven't noticed, I'm high on Oakland this season. I'm taking the Raiders to win the game. And if you're reading this, Guy, I'll take a Keefe Special, no peas, to go.

ARIZONA CARDINALS (-7.5) over Los Angeles Rams

-When the Los Angeles Rams were shut out by the San Francisco 49ers, 28-0, in Week 1, I don't think anyone thought they'd be entering Week 4 as the first-place team in the NFC West. Yet, here they are, the top team in that division, after defeating the Seattle Seahawks in Week 2 and the Tampa Bay Buccaneers in Week 3. Meanwhile, the 1-2 Arizona Cardinals are coming off a 33-18 loss to the Buffalo Bills. After a Week 1 loss to the Patriots, the Cardinals put up 40 points in a win over the Buccaneers. I expect Carson Palmer to bounce back once again. Jameis Winston threw for 400 yards on the Rams' defense last week. In Arizona, I don't see why Palmer can't come close to that. Give me the Cardinals in this one, all day long.

PITTSBURGH STEELERS (-6) over Kansas City Chiefs

-I picked the Kansas City Chiefs to win the AFC West this year. Right now, it looks like that division could be a dog fight to the very end. But at 2-1, KC is off to a good start, entering Week 4 with a 24-3 win over the New York Jets. The Chiefs' defense forced eight turnovers, and took two to the house. That said, something tells me that Ben Roethlisberger isn't going to throw six interceptions like Ryan Fitzpatrick did against Kansas City on Sunday. Roethlisberger and the Pittsburgh Steelers are coming off an embarrassing 34-3 loss to the Eagles in Philadelphia in Week 3. Now, the Steelers return home for Sunday Night Football, and will also see the return of star running back Le'Veon Bell, who was suspended the first three games of the year. It should also be noted that Chiefs running back Jamaal Charles could make his season debut. Still, expect the Steelers to be fired up after only scoring three points last week. I can't bet against Big Ben in this one.

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