Bus Service In South Boston A Hot Topic

The Department of Transportation and the MBTA will visit the Tynan Community Center on Wednesday October 26 at 6pm to answer questions and provide an update on its plans to address the challenge of providing expanded and convenient bus service in a community teeming with millennials and others who take the bus to and from work.

The impact of busses during rush hour and other peak times adds to the existing stress from the vehicular traffic traveling through residential streets on the way into downtown Boston, the school bus schedules, parents dropping off school children, Uber and Taxi
“Our Wizard”

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY - By Staff

“Pay no attention to that man behind the Curtain”. That scene and line seems appropriate as we learn American troops will be used to take the city of Mosul, Iraq. Again!

Despite the blood and treasure we spent in originally taking the city and, despite his military leaders imploring him to leave a residual force behind, our “Commander” disregarded their expert knowledge and advice and withdrew our troops.

Just like the wizard in the Land of OZ who blustered that he knew all and could control all, (until it turned out to be all babble), our “Wizard” has just contradicted himself again and ordered the eleventh troop increase to Iraq, since withdrawing everyone in 2011. What was originally 500 “advisors” is now 5,000.

Would you like to hear a story about American “Advisors” in a faraway land called Viet Nam?
A recent column which contained a reminder for drivers to use their turn signals or ‘Blinkas’ when taking a corner or changing lanes got some feedback. First, what prompted me to make mention of it were complaints by residents; new and longtime neighbors alike, that people seem to be disregarding the law and the common courtesy of using their turn signals. The reminder was made in the form of a ‘Turn Signals Use 101’ description of what these devices are and where to find them on your vehicle. This caused some writers, in fact quite a few of you, to ask if it was a tongue-in cheek statement and/or was I being a wise – A. Yes, to both.

Some people asked what the big deal was about using the turn signals and was it really that common that drivers aren’t doing it. So we had people monitor intersections on East and West Broadway at the corners of I Street, L Street, D Street and B Street. What we found was, at least during the time monitored, it averaged out that 7 out of 10 drivers did not signal when making a turn. Again you might ask, is it that big of a deal? Well, apparently it is to some folks and here’s why. At I Street, the cars coming up from East Third Street didn’t know which way the cars coming up from East Fourth Street were going to turn and vice versa, causing several near collisions, as well as a few tie ups in the middle of the intersection as each car tried to figure out which way the other car wanted to go. Lots of colorful language filled the air as each driver accused the other of being a certain type of idiot. It even came close to getting physical at one time. The exact same scenarios were playing out at the other monitored intersections.

At the corner of L & Broadway it got even touchier. On a recent warmish day, an SUV and a local on a motorcycle; no names please, were stopped at the lights with both pointing up towards M Street. Neither one had a ‘blinka’ on. The biker planned to go straight, so he didn’t need to signal and he assumed the SUV would too, but, the SUV instead made a hard right turn heading into the biker, who escaped by a fraction of an inch because he was alert, he gunned the accelerator just in time and was able to get out of the bigger vehicle’s way, because his bike was fast enough to avoid a collision. We all know that a car only has to tap a motorcycle to send it flying through the air and cause serious injury to the rider. Would you like to know what kind of four letter words were exchanged here? Ah, sorry, some things are better left not repeated.

Ok, we all know it’s starting to get crazy out there. This town is getting so crowded some are surprised that we haven’t sunk into the ocean yet. Look left and look right, it is difficult to find a

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6
Poll: Pot legalization is way ahead, while charter schools are failing the test

A new WBUR poll shows that support for the legalization of marijuana is growing among likely voters in Massachusetts, with 55 percent of those surveyed saying they back Question 2. That’s up from 50 percent last month, while opposition to legalization is falling, from 45 percent last month to 40 percent this month.

On the charter school front, the WBUR poll suggests that Question 2, which would lift the cap on charter schools in Massachusetts, may be headed to defeat, with 52 percent opposing the ballot initiative and 41 percent in favor. But keep in mind: the polls on Question 2 have been all over the map this election cycle. The contest is still up in the air, if other polls are factored into the guessing-game equation. On Question 3, voters overwhelmingly support passage of the ballot initiative that calls for more humane care of farm animals, while opposition to creating a new slots parlor in Revere is strong and getting stronger, the ‘BUR poll show.

Revere voters reject slots parlor

In a non-binding election, voters in Revere dealt a major, though not necessarily fatal, blow to the proposal to add a slots-only casino in Revere, reports Adam Reilly at WGBH. The question, which proponents had hoped would act as springboard for next month’s statewide vote on Question 1, was defeated by a vote count of 2,970 to 1,574. “We have now taken out of their arsenal the talking point that Revere wants this, because we don’t,” Mayor Brian Arrigo said. And judging by the new WBUR poll results, statewide voters don’t want it either.

O’Malley tries to rally the faithful against Question 4

The polls show opponents of marijuana legalization are facing an uphill battle. But that isn’t stopping Cardinal Sean P. O’Malley, who met yesterday with dozens of interfaith leaders to discuss strategies to defeat Question 4. “To me, this is greed trumping common sense and also undermining the common good,” the Roman Catholic leader told the Globe. “It will change the culture of this state if this legislation is passed.”

Meanwhile, the Globe’s Adam Vaccaro looks at the big bucks the liquor industry is pouring into the Question 4 opposition efforts. Their motives really aren’t a mystery: Marijuana is a competitive vice.

Spending money to save money, T hires $1M privatization consultant

The T better get its money’s worth, because this doesn’t look good. Both Nicole Dungca at the Globe and Matt Stout at the Herald are reporting that the MBTA has agreed to pay $1 million to McKinsey & Company to study ways to save money, largely through “new operating models,” i.e. outsourcing. Technically, the story is ultimately about the T’s ongoing privatization efforts. But the office-cooler talk this morning is going to be about that one million smackers and why the rest of us didn’t get into the consulting racket.

Cambridge courthouse reuse has statewide implications

A battle over the redevelopment of a former courthouse in East Cambridge could have ramifications for state properties across Massachusetts, Jon Chesto of the Globe reports. Neighbors and opponents of the proposed redevelopment are challenging whether the state can pass its exemptions from local zoning rules to a private developer—something that Attorney General Maura Healey’s office argues could impact the state’s ability to reuse up to 200 properties statewide. This is a big deal involving big bucks for the state. It could also many future developments.

Question seeks to lower drinking age to 19

Voters in the 3d Hampshre District—which includes Amherst, home of the University of Massachusetts—will vote on a nonbinding referendum on Nov. 8 that asks lawmakers to look into lowering the legal drinking age from 21 to 19, Scott Merzbach of the Hampshire Gazette reports. Former Massachusetts resident Matthew Malone is responsible for the question, which would only lower the drinking age for wine and malt beverages and keep the current age for hard liquor. Although the district covers Pelham and Granby, all but three of the 310 signatures gathered to get the question on the ballot were gathered in Amherst, which is represented by Senate President Stan Rosenberg.

Trying to apply artificial intelligence to Donald Trump

First, let’s get the public-service side of this story out of the way: The MIT maker of a bot that spits out semicoherent Donald Trump-like tweets, based on an artificial intelligence algorithm of Trump’s past mutterings, has announced—or actually his bot, DeepDrumpf, has announced—it’s helping crowdfunding a campaign aimed at raising money for “Girls Who Code,” a nonprofit focused on closing the tech industry’s gender gap by teaching females STEM skills, the BBJ’s David Harris reports. Now for the fun part: You gotta check out DeepDrumpf’s past AI rants in general. They’re hilarious. One of our favorite tweets: “Together we can save America and use her weapons to defeat accountability and take back the world’s money.”

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.
Occasionally readers ask where or how ideas for columns are chosen. There is no big secret, other than listening to what the everyday person has on their mind. Despite the many topics available, one or two usually rise to the top of people’s attention. A reader sent the following “open letter” which first appeared in an out of state newspaper.

It is on one of those topics that has garnered national conversation, it succinctly states one side of the topic and is reprinted here for your consideration.

Commissioner Goodell,

I’ve been a season pass holder at Yankee Stadium, Yale Bowl and Giants Stadium.

I missed the “90-91 season because I was with a battalion of Marines in Desert Storm. 14 of my wonderful Marines returned home with the American Flag draped across their lifeless bodies. My last conversation with one of them, Sgt. Garrett Mourella, was about how our Giants were going to the Super Bowl. He never got to see it.

Many friends, Marines, and Special Forces Soldiers, who worked with or for me through the years returned home with the American Flag draped over their coffins.

Now I watch multi-millionaire athletes, who never did anything in their lives but play a game, disrespect what brave Americans fought and died for. They make minimum wage and spend months and years away from their families. They don’t do it for an hour on Sunday. They do it 24/7 often with lead, not footballs, coming in their direction. They watch their brothers carted off in pieces not on a gurney to get their knee iced. They don’t even have ice! Many don’t have legs or arms.

Some wear blue and risk their lives daily on the streets of America. They wear fire helmets and go upstairs into the fire rather than down to safety. On 9-11, hundreds vanished. They were the heroes.

I hope that your high paid protesting pretty boys and you look into the mirror when you shave tomorrow and see what you really are, legends in your own minds. You need to hit the road and take those worms with you.

Time to change the channel!

Written by: Col Jeffrey A Powers USMC (Ret)

“That’s how America feels. Take care till next week.”

Note: talk back to Brian by email at bmahoney@southbostontoday.com
Creepy Clowns Are Police Concerned? Should You Be?

Creepy Clowns, Scary Clowns, call them what you will, but this latest phenomenon continues to spread across the US and Canada. For those readers who still may not be familiar with Creepy Clowns, it’s the act of people dressing up in clown costumes and walking around certain areas in what’s believed to be an effort to scare and even terrorize people. Because these are not the cute, cuddly and happy clowns found at the circus, or hired to perform at children’s birthday parties, these clowns wear masks with evil, mean and hideous expressions on their masks.

As these creepy clown sightings increase daily, it’s causing concern among people everywhere, particularly parents who worry about their kids. And law enforcement officials nationwide have taken notice but their advice to the public varies. Some police organizations say it’s no big deal and aren’t taking it too seriously; as dressing up in a clown suit is not an illegal act on its own, but other officials do believe it all bears close monitoring. But all seem to agree, it’s best not to play into the hands of the people who for whatever reason, seem to enjoy the reaction they get by dressing up as ‘creepy clowns’. Like anything else, if you give attention-seekers the reaction they are looking for, it often encourages more of it.

Some officials have stated that there is potential for problems if this continues. With faces hidden and identities not known, criminals could use this anonymity to commit crimes such as assault and kidnapping and even worse. But this also poses a danger to those in the clown disguises from parents who won’t take kindly to hideous costumed adults if they come within close proximity to their children. Being within one’s legal rights to dress up in these costumes is one thing but the protective instincts of parents will often override all else when their kids are involved and reports of fathers attacking the clowns are beginning to surface around the country.

Law enforcement officials hope that like most fads, this creepy clown situation will run its course and fade away; especially once Halloween comes and goes and the weather turns colder. But the question remains: What kind of people take pleasure in dressing up in a scary mask and lurking around places in an effort to scare others; especially children? Well, to quote that old saying – “It really does take all kinds”.

The Book that has people talking and is making waves from the Streets of Boston to the Halls of Congress.
Action packed intrigue – a page turner from start to finish

The Police Revolt of 2016
By Lawrence C. Mackin

The Police Revolt of 2016
by Lawrence C. Mackin Sr.

On sale now in eBook form on Book Baby, Barnes and Noble, iBooks and electronic book outlets worldwide. $4.99 in eBook form. Will be available in hard cover and paperback in “Print on Demand” form at Book Baby. Print On Demand paperbacks can be ordered from Barnes & Noble, Amazon and other book outlets starting September 29, 2015

John Ciccone
Continued from page 3

Street, an intersection or corner where there isn’t some type of digging, detour or blockade either from new construction or utility crews laying new lines and pipes. The T- Buses at certain times and on certain lines are packed like sardine cans. There are long lines for both entering and exiting. 2. It will make driving our crowded streets a bit safer. 3. I needed something to write about this week and this is as good a topic as any and 4. All the kids on their way to school in the morning really don’t need to hear all those F-Bombs being tossed around by drivers narrowly avoiding all those accidents. Stay safe…

A reminder: This Friday night, October 21st beginning at 7pm, the Friendship Party for Benny and Karen Fiasconaro will be held at Florian Hall in Dorchester. Music, dancing, raffles and an all-around good time will be the theme of the night, as it’s once again time for neighbors to help neighbors. And Benny and Karen are certainly that – great neighbors. Please try to turn out and show your support for these good people, who have always been there to support good causes in the community themselves. Tickets, just $20, can be purchased at the door on Friday.
SEN. FORRY, REP. COLLINS UNVEIL TRANSPORTATION PLAN

$11 million in funding to improve transportation without new taxes or fees

State Senator Linda Dorcena Forry and State Representative Nick Collins announced a comprehensive transportation plan to improve public transit while reducing congestion.

Building off the progress made in the South Boston Waterfront Sustainable Transportation Plan, Sen. Forry and Rep. Collins spent the last two years pushing officials from the Massachusetts Department of Transportation, the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA) and the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) to continue working on transit issues in South Boston.

As part of that effort, Sen. Forry and Rep. Collins urged the MBTA and MassDOT throughout 2016 to include South Boston in its Capital Investment Plan for FY17-FY21. As a result of their advocacy, approximately $11 million has been earmarked for transportation needs in South Boston. The Capital Investment Plan includes:

- $9.7 million for the Cypher Street extension from D Street to E Street and reconstruction of E Street to extend from Cypher Street to Summer Street;
- $700,000 to study Kosciuszko Circle;
- $500,000 to plan, design and construct parallel parking along Columbia Road from I Street to Preble Circle;
- $135,000 to upgrade the traffic signal at the intersection of I Street and Day Boulevard; and
- $100,000 to facilitate transportation needs on Columbia Road.

“I would like to thank Highway Administrator Tom Tinlin and MassDOT for addressing Day Boulevard and Kosciuszko Circle in their Capital Investment Plan,” said Rep. Collins. “It is my hope that these recommendations will address long-standing issues at these two intersections, relieving traffic congestion and increasing the quality of life for our residents and commuters alike.”

“I am pleased the MBTA and MassDOT are committing to a review of services in South Boston,” said Senator Linda Dorcena Forry. “These agencies will also analyze the best ways and solutions to upgrade Day Boulevard and Kosciuszko Circle which suffer from gridlock and are serious public safety concerns. Ensuring safe roads and reliable transportation options to our residents are critically important,” concluded Sen. Forry.

Currently underway is an examination of South Boston bus systems by MassDOT and the MBTA. As part of that conversation, Rep. Collins and Sen. Forry have advocated for a series of short-term and long-term fixes to improve service in South Boston. Short-term proposals include:

- Revitalizing the City Point Bus Terminal on East First Street to accommodate passenger platforms and other amenities; and
- A review current bus routes for inclusion of express routes.

A public meeting will be held later this month to discuss MBTA route improvements.

However, cognizant that some of the long-term transportation needs in South Boston and throughout Massachusetts require substantial funding, Rep. Collins and Sen. Forry have urged the MBTA to examine the possibility of capturing value from existing MBTA assets by leasing air rights above the Red Line layover tracks at Cabot Yard. Significant money raised by a similar project in Hudson Yards, New York, was used to improve public transportation without increasing the tax or fee burden on riders and taxpayers.

“By capturing value from existing assets, the MBTA will be able to realize significant sources of income and in turn can make the necessary investments in transportation infrastructure which will benefit commuters in South Boston and the system as whole,” said Rep. Collins. “Examples of these improvements may include infrastructure upgrades for bus service, traffic signals, and congestion relief in one of our busiest neighborhoods. This would help set the T in the direction of economic sustainability and provide funding for much needed infrastructure upgrades without new fees or taxes. These kinds of creative solutions are necessary to address financial woes before we resort to privatizing services.”

The MBTA, in response to the lawmakers’ requests, are currently studying the potential value of this proposal.
Did you know there’s a new dog park coming to South Boston?

Please join Massport to celebrate the opening of the East First Street Dog Park.

** WHEN: **  
THURSDAY  
OCTOBER 27, 2016

** TIME: **  
10:30AM

** LOCATION: **  
EAST FIRST STREET  
(Between M Street and O Street, directly across from the M Street park basketball courts)

SOUTH BOSTON, MA

The quarter acre dog park features park benches, pet fountain, doggie exercise equipment and is surrounded by an additional quarter acre of landscaped area.

For additional information visit [www.massport.com](http://www.massport.com)
### Recent South Boston Real Estate Sales

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**GRIMES CROSSING AT AMES AVENUE**

NEW CONSTRUCTION!

Located in historic Canton Center, this newly constructed small complex of townhomes is a convenient place to live. A short walk to shops, restaurants and the commuter rail, just 22 minutes to Back Bay. Easy access to Routes 95 and 93. There are two styles of townhomes to choose from, a first floor master bedroom or three floors of living. Both styles have 2 bedrooms, 2 ½ baths, hardwood floors, a loft, a full basement and garage. $5,000 towards closing cost.

**$529,000 & $559,000**

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**PARCEL K**

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 25

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

22 DRYDOCK AVE

3rd Floor

Boston, MA 02210

PROJECT PROPONENT:

Parcel K LLC, PPC Land Ventures, Inc., and Lincoln Property Company

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The proponents in their Notice of Project Change are requesting an increase in the number of hotel rooms from 247 to 293; a decrease in the number of underground parking spaces from 640 to a maximum of 420; and certain design changes within the previously approved building envelopes

MAIL TO: GARY R UTER

Boston Planning & Development Agency

One City Hall Square, 9th Floor

Boston, MA 02201

PHONE: 617.918.4457

EMAIL: Gary.Uter@Boston.gov

CLOSE OF COMMENT PERIOD:

11/7/2016

Teresa Polhemus, Executive Director/Secretary
HISTORICAL SOCIETY PUBLISHES PARADE HISTORY

In this most enjoyable and informative work, South Boston on Parade, author Paul Christian traces the Parade’s history from 1901 to the present through hundreds of photographs and historical details. He guides us through the several changes that have occurred over the past century, from a march commemorating George Washington’s first military victory, to a procession celebrating Irish heritage and the Patron Saint of Ireland, to a general day of good cheer. “The Evacuation Day/Saint Patrick’s Day Parade is an integral part of South Boston. Few other annual events in the city have attracted more attention over the years. The parade has changed as much as the town has changed, and it was my goal to document the roots of the parade, how it evolved over the years into the celebration it is today” said Christian, former Commissioner and Chief of Department, Boston Fire Department.

Robert Allison, President of the South Boston Historical Society referred to Paul Christian’s newly-released book, South Boston on Parade, as “the definitive history of the Evacuation Day/Saint Patrick’s Day Parade”. Allison is a well-known author and chair of the History Department at Suffolk University.


The South Boston Historical Society supports local business.

South Boston on Parade is available at two South Boston retail stores, both of which are along the parade route:

Wears + Wares, 634 East Broadway
Southie’s Own, 396 West Broadway

Paul Christian will be speaking to several local groups in the next few months: the South Boston Art Association on November 12; and the Castle Island Association on January 21. The public is invited to attend. All proceeds from book sales go directly to the South Boston Historical Society.

Youth Ambassadors Hit the Streets!

As part of their community service efforts, the South Boston Community Health Center’s Youth Ambassadors spent two weeks ago cleaning the streets in the West Broadway business district. For many years, the Youth Ambassadors have been concerned about the amount of litter they see on the streets. Litter has a negative effect on both the environment and the health of South Boston residents.

The Youth Ambassadors are committed to making a difference in their community and know that eliminating litter is a great way to show they care. Youth Ambassadors is a youth development program at the South Boston Community Health Center for youth ages 12-18 that engages teens in activities focused on community service, teen health, substance abuse prevention and art-based initiatives.
Mr. Peter Witts second grade students have been studying the War of 1812 and recently finished their collaborative project on “The Attack on Washington.” After doing little more than a read aloud on the event the students were set loose to research more about the topic. With use of technology each student came up with a list of interesting facts and a paragraph as to the attacks significance to the war. Jacki remembers, “From there we made a few drafts of our work to improve each time. Then we went and typed up our words so they would look really good on the final project.”

Although all students did a rough draft of the picture when it came to the final step of collaboratively drawing the poster the students hit an obstacle. In Riley’s words, “we got off to a rough start, but don’t worry we fixed it up!” While Mr. Witts was worried about the high number of literacy and technology standards he had included throughout the unit, he had not anticipated drawing to be the hardest task. As each student brought a unique vision to the drawing, visions clashed and obstinacy set in. At the end of the first time allotment they looked at their progress and talked. They all decided that it was not their best work, and that they would like to try again next class.

The following class they wrote down a list of acceptable guidelines: 1. What they wanted to include in the picture, 2. Assign tasks, and 3. How they would behave. From the moment Gillian added, “That we needed to respect one another by talking instead of arguing” the mood changed and the quality of work improved drastically as shown by their rough vs. good draft photos. After the picture was done each student printed the facts they had previously found and glued them to the area of the picture which they matched. For example, Callan insisted upon adding little bits of fire to each window to illustrate the burning of the White House.

‘The Attack on Washington’ project is the second of three projects that comprise the War of 1812 learning unit in Mr. Witts second grade class at St Peter Academy. The last phase of the unit will culminate with an independent research project and individualized assessment. Mr. Witts used this first social studies unit to go well beyond the content and lay the groundwork for how students will...
34th Annual Halloween Celebration at Castle Island

The Castle Island Association is holding its 34th Halloween celebration at Fort Independence on Castle Island this Saturday and Sunday, October 22 & 23, 2016, between 12:00 and 4:00 PM, weather permitting. All children from South Boston are cordially invited to come to the “Children’s Magical Halloween Castle”. Children must be accompanied by a responsible adult. Costumes are optional. ADMISSION IS FREE!

Over the past thirty-three years, tens of thousands of children and adults have attended this celebration. The event offers enjoyments of all kinds from outdoor entertainers, magicians, storytellers to our “magical castle” - complete with sound effects - and free refreshments. Judging by its continued popularity, a fun time is had by all!

The Castle Island Association firmly believes that the earlier we introduce our youngsters to Castle Island and its historical sites, the more likely they will be to result in a life-long interest in Castle Island and Fort Independence as historical sites.

This Halloween celebration is the Castle Island Association’s way of saying “Thank You” to all who support us, especially the South Boston community, and this year we’re extra grateful for this support that helped ensure that our 34th celebration is occurring. We are proud to serve our community, state and nation by giving guided tours of Fort Independence and hosting this event without charge and without any cost to the taxpayer.

In the case of inclement weather on either day, call 617-268-8870 or check our web site, www.bostonfortindependence.com, to get an update on the status of the celebration for that day.

SOUTH BOSTON TREE REMOVAL HEARING

In accordance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 87, the Boston Parks and Recreation Department will hold a public hearing on Thursday, November 3, at 10 a.m. on a request to remove one public shade tree at 18 Preble Street in South Boston. The hearing will be held by the City of Boston’s Tree Warden (or designee) in the 3rd floor Conference Room of the Boston Parks and Recreation Department at 1010 Massachusetts Avenue, Roxbury.

The proposal is for the removal of one London plane tree measuring 5 inches dbh (diameter at breast height) due to a curb cut application at 18 Preble Street. Public testimony will be taken at the hearing, or may be provided prior to the hearing in writing to the Tree Warden, Boston Parks and Recreation Department, 1010 Massachusetts Avenue, 3rd Floor, Boston, MA 02118 or by emailing parks@boston.gov with “South Boston Tree Hearing” in the subject line.

A final decision regarding the request will be made within two weeks of the hearing. For further information, please contact the Tree Warden at (617) 635-7275.

INCREASED HOURS AT CITY’S COMMUNITY CENTERS

Operational Shifts Will Provide Boston’s Families With More Access and Programming

Mayor Martin J. Walsh today announced operational changes at the City’s community centers that will increase operating hours and provide more opportunities for Boston’s families. These changes take effect October 15.

“These operating shifts will allow our community centers to be open and fully staffed, offering programs when our families need them the most,” said Mayor Walsh. “Our community centers are important resources for residents, and all across the neighborhoods I have heard from people who would benefit from having more access to their neighborhood centers.”

Boston Centers for Youth & Families (BCYF) operates 36 facilities, including 20 free standing community centers and pool buildings and 16 based in school buildings. Over 2,500 people visit BCYF community centers daily. Shifting employee hours and redeploying some staff will allow BCYF to keep all free-standing centers open Monday through Friday, from 6:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. On Saturdays, the centers will be open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Five centers will be open seven days a week. BCYF centers in school buildings will operate from 2 p.m. to 9 p.m., Monday through Friday. Select school sites will be open on Saturdays. Morning programs for children and seniors in school-based buildings will still be offered as will school vacation week and summer programs.

“Taking a critical look at our staffing levels and hours of operation yielded these changes which will add value for our participants, add value to the neighborhoods and add value to our staff whose time will be better utilized,” said William Morales, Commissioner of BCYF.

Below is the full schedule of new operating hours for all South Boston Centers:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BCYF Center</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BCYF Center</td>
<td>Monday-Friday 2:00-9:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BCYF Condon Community Center</td>
<td>Monday-Saturday 6:30am-9:00pm; Sunday 9:00am-5:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BCYF Curley Community Center</td>
<td>Monday-Friday 2:00-9:00pm; Saturday 9:00am-5:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BCYF Perkins Community Center</td>
<td>Monday-Friday 2:00-9:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BCYF Tynan Community Center</td>
<td>Monday-Friday 2:00-9:00pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The proposal is for the removal of one London plane tree measuring 5 inches dbh (diameter at breast height) due to a curb cut application at 18 Preble Street. Public testimony will be taken at the hearing, or may be provided prior to the hearing in writing to the Tree Warden, Boston Parks and Recreation Department, 1010 Massachusetts Avenue, 3rd Floor, Boston, MA 02118 or by emailing parks@boston.gov with “South Boston Tree Hearing” in the subject line.

A final decision regarding the request will be made within two weeks of the hearing. For further information, please contact the Tree Warden at (617) 635-7275.
Halloween On Broadway 2016

The South Boston Chamber of Commerce members, South Boston Neighborhood Development Corporation and many local participating businesses invite the neighborhood children in costumes to “Trick or Treat along East and West Broadway” on Monday, October 31, 2016 from 4:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. Participating establishments will be clearly marked with an orange and black poster inviting the children to stop in for a treat.

The South Boston Chamber of Commerce – now collaborating with the South Boston NDC will once again be hosting this year’s annual event that allows families to stroll safely along East and West Broadway for a fun and enjoyable Halloween.

Broadway businesses wishing to participate – that have not already received a poster, should contact the South Boston NDC office at 617-268-9610.

Trick or Treat on Broadway
Monday, October 31st
4:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Presented by the
The South Boston Chamber of Commerce, in collaboration with South Boston NDC, and your local participating merchants

Young Artists Paint with Us!

In partnership with the South Boston Arts Association, St. Peter Academy and the South Boston Community Health Center’s Youth Ambassadors program, “Young at Arts” painting classes will begin on Monday, November 7th at 4:30 p.m. The new location of the classes is St. Peter Academy 371 West Fourth Street – lower level.

The sessions will be held on Monday afternoons from 4:30 to 5:30 pm. All painting materials will be supplied. The youngsters will be painting in water-based paint led by renowned watercolorist Dan McCole and other artists from the South Boston Arts Association.

Classes are offered at no cost to youth ages seven to twelve with funding provided by the South Boston Neighborhood Development Foundation, Gillette Great Starts grant, artists from the South Boston Arts Association and space generously donated to the community by St. Peter Academy.

Please call or e-mail Mayra Rodriguez-Howard @ 617-464-7423 mahoward@sbcchc.org or Linda Doran @ 617-464-7463 ldoran@sbcchc.org to reserve a seat for your child prior to Monday November 7th. We look forward to seeing our young artists on Monday November 7th from 4:30 – 5:30 p.m.

For further information contact Mayra Rodriguez-Howard at 617 464-7423 or Dan McCole 617 464-4237.
over the course of a reasonable time period, a fact that makes Mr. Witts very proud. Well done to the seven year old scholars for their great work!

Meet the exemplary teaching staff of St. Peter Academy at their Early Childhood Education Open House on Wednesday, November 9 from 9:00-11:00 am. Can’t make the open house but want to learn more – Private tours are available upon request.

St Peter Academy, an independent community based private school, is South Boston’s only Toddler through Grade 8 School. It is privately funded, enriched with extended learning hours and summer programs, and fosters a nurturing, safe and individualized environment. The student/teacher ratio is 6:1 which is ideal for creating exemplary instructional models filled with interactive learning opportunities. The school is located at 371 West Fourth Street and is currently accepting applications for the year round toddler program and 2016 school year – To learn more about the school and all programs visit www.stpeteracademy.com or schedule a private tour by contacting Ms. Doreen Brown or Ms Maria Blasi at 617-268-0750 or email SPA@StPeterAcademy.com.
As we enter Week 7, there’s only one sure thing in the NFL: the New England Patriots will not only win, but they’ll also cover. I took the Pats as a nine-point favorite at home over the Cincinnati Bengals. With their 35-17 win, it made the Patriots my most reliable pick of the season. So why run from them now?

Here are my picks for Week 7:

NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS (-7.5) over Pittsburgh Steelers
-Some here in New England are acting like Ben Roethlisberger’s knee surgery is such a bad thing for the Patriots, because they might not have a “real test” before the playoffs begin. Well, last time I checked, the Patriots still play Seattle at home and the Broncos in Denver. Also, something’s telling me that an injury to Big Ben isn’t going to affect the Patriots in a negative way. If anything, it just makes the road to the No. 1 seed in the AFC that much more realistic. Sure, Roethlisberger’s absence has increased the spread, but with the way Tom Brady is playing since his Deflategate suspension, the Patriots would need to be a 21-point favorite for me to even think about scaring me away from this one. Pats win by 20 in Pittsburgh.

MINNESOTA VIKINGS (-3) over Philadelphia Eagles
-Another road favorite, the Minnesota Vikings are coming off their bye week as the only undefeated team in the NFL. I expect the Vikings’ dominant defense to force rookie Carson Wentz to throw his second interception of the season. Wentz and the Eagles got off to a great 3-0 start, but since whooping the Steelers 34-3 in Week 3, losses in Detroit and Washington have taken Philadelphia back down to Earth. Against the two best pass defenses he’s faced this year, Wentz threw for under 200 yards in each game: a Week-2 win in Chicago, and last week’s loss in Washington. Now, he faces a Minnesota defense that has allowed a league-best 12.6 points-per game. And oh yeah, former Eagle Sam Bradford might have a little extra incentive to make this one sting for Philly. I can’t bet against that.

OAKLAND RAIDERS (+1) over Jacksonville Jaguars
-The 4-2 Raiders are coming off a loss at home to the Kansas City Chiefs, a game in which Oakland scored only 10 points. And oh yeah, former Eagle Sam Bradford might have a little extra incentive to make this one sting for Philly. I can’t bet against that.

KANSAS CITY CHIEFS (-7) over New Orleans Saints
-I just mentioned the Chiefs defeating the Raiders in Oakland last Sunday. Now, at 3-2, Kansas City returns home to host a 2-3 Saints team that just won two straight shootouts, scoring a combined 76 points in wins over the Chargers in San Diego and over Carolina at home. The Saints are the second-highest scoring offense in the NFL, putting up 31 points-per-game this season. But their defense has allowed the most points-per-game in the league at 33.6. The Chiefs’ defense ranks 10th in the NFL, allowing 20.4 points-per-game. Knowing New Orleans can score, the seven points might scare people away from the Chiefs. But with the game being in KC, I think the Chiefs make their defensive mark on the league with a statement win at home.

ATLANTA FALCONS (-6.5) over San Diego Chargers
-I picked Seattle to beat Atlanta last week, and I got that right. However, I also picked Seattle to win by six, and it was only a two-point win for Seahawks. It snapped a four-game winning streak for the Falcons, who have surprised me big time this season. At 4-2, Atlanta stands alone in first place in the NFC South. The Falcons’ high-powered offense shouldn’t have any problem scoring on San Diego. It’s the highest over-under of the week at 53.5, and for good reason. Neither defense is any good, and the last time the Falcons were home, they scored 48 points in a 48-33 win over the Carolina Panthers in Week 4. Have fun trying to figure out the San Diego Chargers. They’re coming off a 21-13 win over the Denver Broncos. But San Diego is 0-3 on the road this year, which nearly makes Atlanta the lock of the week.

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617-765-8636

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Boston, MA 02210
617-357-LUCK

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146 Seaport Boulevard
Boston, MA 02210
617-357-8000

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

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

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

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617-856-7369

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