



Could Super Bowl LI Patriots Victory Become A Trojan Horse?

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CONTINUED ON page 12

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EDITORIAL

The 'Pats' Redefine 'Shock and Awe'

“It’s not over till it’s over.” This is a saying that’s been around forever. But, after last Sunday’s Super Bowl, it has been revived, rejuvenated and repeated nonstop by countless New England Patriots fans of both the full time, die hard variety, and the newly converted.

We’d be willing to bet that, whether we admitted it or not, quite a few of us watching the game were not feeling too confident about a ‘Pats’ win, until the third quarter. Never has a team

come back from that far behind (28-3) in a Super Bowl to win it. But determination, incredible skill and a whole lot of heart and soul - as this team clearly displays - can work wonders. It surely did.

We don’t believe luck was involved at all. With all the abilities they possess, both physical and spiritual, who needs luck? So, Congratulations and thank you, once again, New England Patriots for another great season with the best finale ever. You are amazing.



“The N.E. Patriots Super Bowl win should remind us all of that old saying: It’s not over till it’s over” - Tony Christiani

 A black and white photograph of a man with glasses reading a newspaper. He has his hand to his chin in a thoughtful pose.

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 A photograph of the South Boston skyline at dusk, with buildings reflected in the water. A large chain is visible in the foreground.

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The Information Center



Some Final Thoughts on Super Bowl LI

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY
John Ciccone

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

Overshadowing all the events taking place in Washington, the rest of the country and around the world - at least as far as people in New England are concerned (and yes, maybe the folks in Atlanta too) - is of course last Sunday's Super Bowl. So, for this week and maybe just a bit longer, why not stay on topic?

What does the incredible turnaround in last Sunday's game tell us? Among other things, that against all odds, if you remain calm and composed and tap into your talent and skills that you know you have, giving up or letting down in your determination to win should never be an option. The 'Pats' know this and they showed us all how it's done last week. If anyone understands the true meaning of the phrase 'Grace

under pressure' it is certainly them. I can't remember when I've seen so many of our neighbors this happy and ready to celebrate. And celebrate they did after the game ended and celebrate they continued to do on Tuesday in the streets of Boston for the victory parade. Oh what, it was rainy, snowy, windy and cold for the parade? Talking to the celebrants that day, few noticed and even fewer cared. It was party time and party they did.

The game of course was the main thing on people's minds, but there were a few other related issues that played into it all. Such as?

How satisfying was it to watch Roger Goodell having to hand the trophy to the Patriots and forced to acknowledge Tom Brady's MVP status? To steal a phrase uttered

by many of our readers: "Goodell looked a bit DEFLATED". The much-anticipated halftime show by Lady Gaga was not an anti-Trump political rant like so many in Hollywood and in the news media had demanded she do. This infuriated the professional protesters but delighted the fans. Instead, she started off the show with the song 'God Bless America' and actually brought a unifying theme to the performance to the stage. I'm no big fan of Lady G, but credit should be given where due. She was great. Her show was a refreshing improvement from the disgraceful cop-hating act by Beyoncé the previous year. Oh, and who can forget the beautiful rendition of our National Anthem by the fantastic Luke Bryan at the start of the game? Country Music

stars love America and our nation's Anthem and always sing it proudly.

Could anything have been improved upon for Super Bowl LI? Not the game. The 4th quarter will live in the memory of millions forever and easily made up for the scare during the first three. Well, in addition to canning the majority of the governing body at the NFL, Goodell high among them, the commercials, which have been part of the highlights of the Super Bowl experience to many left much to be desired. Traditionally, Super Bowl commercials have been creative, heartwarming, and happy and in many cases very funny. They used to be memorable and entertaining. Now, some of these sponsors with the blessing of the NFL are trying their

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10



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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.

‘Journalists can’t run around with their hair on fire for the next four years’

Medic critic Dan Kennedy has been following the harsh criticism of Donald Trump by conservative Tom Nichols, a professor at the Naval War College and Harvard Extension School, and thinks he’s earned the right to also criticize the media’s often over-the-top coverage of Trump. Dan: “There are multiple reasons to think that Trump represents a unique threat to democracy. But journalists can’t run around with their hair on fire for the next four years. The best way to cover Trump is with calm, fact-based reporting — not with hyperbole that does not hold up to scrutiny.”

Watertown historian: Bannon not only thrives on crisis, he firmly believes in its historic inevitability

Instead of running around with their hair on fire, maybe members of the media can slow down to actually try to understand what makes Trump’s supporters tick. Dana Forsythe at Wicked Local has done just that by interviewing Watertown historian David Kaiser, who discusses how he once talked with current White House aide Steve Bannon for Bannon’s documentary “Generation Zero,” which basically follows a theory by amateur historians that says America is hit about every 80 years with some sort of catastrophic crisis. The idea is key to understand-

ing Bannon, Kaiser says.

Why is the left embracing the right-wing’s anti-Warren meme?

WBZ’s John Keller, writing in the *Globe*, isn’t overly surprised that conservatives are bashing away at U.S. Senator Elizabeth Warren. But why are many liberals also bashing away? From Jon: “The irony is striking. Amid a golden age of political trash talking, the leading female critic of the political establishment is cast as a somewhat unhinged hypocrite by the right, a meme now being channeled by the left.” The answer, we think, is partially tied to the fact that most of her critics, left and right, are ideological purists.

Lynch hears it loud and clear from constituents: Start opposing Trump -- or else

The moderate U.S. Rep. Stephen Lynch, who faces a primary challenge from the left next year in the Democratic primary, got an earful from constituents in Milton last week, some of whom demanded to know what’s he doing to do to oppose President Trump, reports Mike Deehan at WGBH. “You are in a very safe district,” one constituent told Lynch. “We have a strong history of liberal causes and fighting tyranny. ... Be out there, and we want to see you. Take this guy and hold this guy’s feet to the fire.”

‘God of persistence, God of ... our own modern day patriots’

Speaking of SHNS, our friends there sent us this prayer that House Chaplain Father Rick Walsh apparently offered yesterday (bold emphases are his):

“House Prayer - February 6, 2017 -- God of persistence, God of hope – we pray today for the members of our legislature. Today we celebrate and honor the historic achievement of our own modern day patriots. Just when our hopes were deflated, we witnessed a performance of super proportions. May the members of

this House be ‘embradied’ to champion seemingly lost causes and to persevere in their team efforts to craft just legislation and to promote bills that are creative and strategic. May God continue to bless our Commonwealth.”

Bitter embarrassment: *Globe*’s early edition prints wrong Pats outcome

Far be it for MASterList to point out others’ mistakes (see our last buried item today on our own Pats coverage), but this one is a whopper, as reported by Jen McCaffrey at MassLive: The *Globe*’s early editions in Florida got the Super Bowl outcome wrong, with the massive headline “A Bitter End,” apparently written and printed before the Pats’ spectacular come-from-behind Super Bowl victory on Sunday. ... The Herald’s Howie Carr pounced on the blunder.

Skepticism greets Patrick’s ‘absolute privilege’ claim at SJC hearing

At least one Supreme Judicial Court justice at a court hearing yesterday didn’t appear overly impressed with claims by attorneys for Deval Patrick that the former governor is protected by “absolute privilege” from defamation suits connected with his duties as governor, reports the Herald’s Bob McGovern. “What if we had a governor who had no respect for the truth and in a situation like this said: ‘I fired this person because we found child porn on her computer?’ said SJC Chief Justice Ralph Gants. ‘It turns out to be totally false and absolutely defamatory.’” McGovern has all the details of the case.

Healey shifts her focus west and beyond

Attorney General Maura Healey is throwing her support to a lawsuit in Washington state that’s seeking to block President Trump’s controversial immigration rules, now that a similar case in Boston appears moot, the Herald’s Chris Cassidy reports.

Continued on page 6

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Ed Flynn Thanks the South Boston Citizens Association

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Tom McGrath and the executive board of the South Boston Citizens Association for naming me as their General Chairman of the Association's 2017 Evacuation Day commemorative events. It is an honor to be selected and I promise to work hard and represent the South Boston Citizens Association and the people of South Boston to the best of my ability.

South Boston is a special community. We work hard and try to give back to our neighborhood and our country. South Boston works best when we work together. I would encourage all to participate in the many events sponsored by the South Boston Citizens Association over the next few weeks. Get involved and give back to our community. The South Boston Citizens Associations

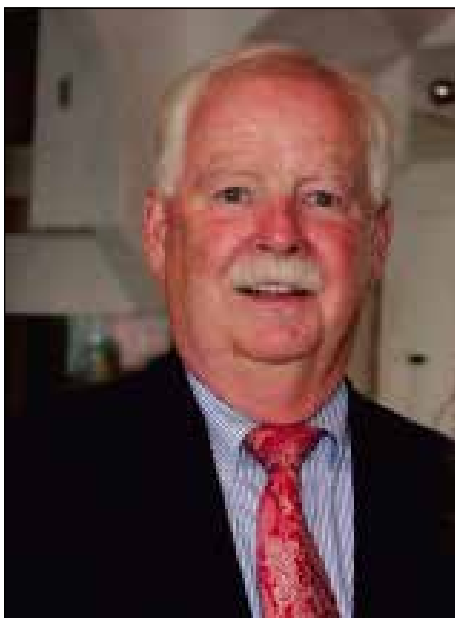
also sponsors many events for our young people. In partnership with Mass Bay Credit Union and Comcast will once again sponsor a full roster of civic and sporting events over a three-week period as part of its annual commemorative celebration of Evacuation Day.

The Association's events begin with the Jimmy Flaherty Kick-Off Breakfast on Saturday February 25, at the Seapoint Restaurant 10:00A.M., where the Henry Knox Un-sung Hero Awards will be presented, followed by a host of educational and athletic events throughout the month of March.

This year's SBCA commemorative events will also include the Memorial Mass and Memorial Exercises at the Dorchester Heights Monument on Friday, March 17th, and the 137th Annual Evacuation Day Banquet

at the Boston Convention Center later that evening. The full schedule of events, as well as the identities of the 2017 Henry Knox Award, John W. McCormack Public Service Award, The SBCA Presidents Award and James "Jim" Kelly/Margret "Peggy" Flaherty Shamrock Community Service awards, will be announced in the coming weeks. "I remind everyone that a limited number of tickets are available for our Banquet, which is the capstone event of the 2017 commemorative activities," stated McGrath.

(If you want to attend the banquet, please contact Tom McGrath at tmcgrath1963@gmail.com or you can also contact Ed Flynn at edflynn254@yahoo.com or my cell phone number is 617 820 8571)



Jimmy Flaherty Kick-off Breakfast Set for Saturday February 25th, 2017

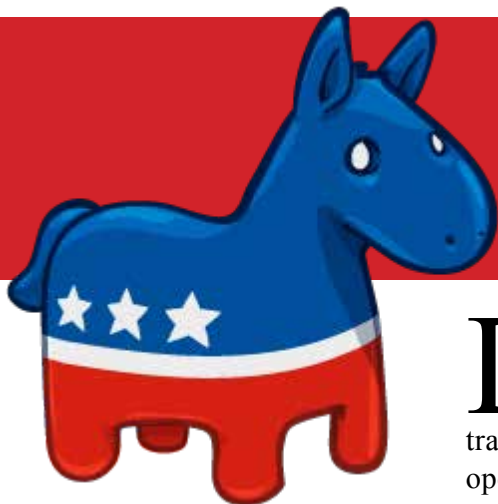
The SBCA President Thomas McGrath is pleased to announce that on Saturday, February, 25th 2017, at the Kick-off Breakfast, at the Seapoint Restaurant at 10AM, The Henry Knox Award Presentation will take place. Family, Friends and Neighbors are respectfully invited to attend this wonderful event. A \$10.00 donation is requested at door to help

off-set some costs. This year's event will once again feature great music of Bob Fowkes and Curragh's Fancy.

The event Chairman will be Suffolk County Clerk of the Courts Michael Donovan, who has always supported the fight to preserve the historical importance of Evacuation Day. "As president of the Association, it is an honor for me to appoint Mike to

kick-off the festivities. His commitment and involvement with the SBCA and the entire community has been a tremendous asset to me and the Executive Board." Said McGrath.

The awards are presented to everyday citizens involved in the community who seek no recognition, who are considered "Unsung Heroes". This year's honorees will be announced in the coming weeks.



WARD 6 & 7 DEMOCRATS TO HOLD CAUCUS

Democrats in Wards 6 and 7 will be holding caucuses at the Curley Recreation Center, 1163 Columbia Road, South Boston (M Street Entrance) on Saturday March 4th at 9:00 am. Doors will open at 8:45 am for check in. The caucus is open to all

registered Democrats in Wards 6 and 7. Candidates for Delegate and Alternate must consent to nomination in writing and must be present at the caucus. Those not elected as a Delegate and/or Alternate, who meet the qualifications, may apply to be add-on delegates.



BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY ANNOUNCES WEDDING CEREMONY GIVEAWAY

BOSTON – February 06, 2017 – Boston Public Library is offering six couples the chance to exchange vows surrounded by thousands of love stories on Sunday, June 11, 2017 in the iconic Italianate courtyard at the Central Library. Beginning Monday, February 6 through Sunday, March 12, 2017 an online lottery will be available via www.bpl.org/ceremonygiveaway. Couples will be randomly selected and notified no later than Monday, March 13, 2017.

“Long a much sought-after wedding venue, this initiative offers everyone regardless of economic capacity a chance to have Boston Public Library be a part of their lives on this special occasion, and we hope to see many applicants with a strong Boston or Massachusetts connection apply,” said

David Leonard, President of the Boston Public Library. “I extend my thanks to our sponsors whose efforts will enhance these ceremonies and provide lasting memories for the newlyweds.”

Each of the selected couples will be invited to the Boston Public Library’s Central Library for a morning wedding ceremony while the building is closed to the public. Included in the package are pre-ceremony light breakfast and beverages compliments of The Catered Affair, bouquets and boutonnieres provided by Artistic Blossoms, ceremony music performed by Anima of Music Management, ceremony and mini-session photography provided by Angelina Rose Photography, commemorative takeaway gifts compliments of the Boston Public Library and The Catered

Affair, and ceremonies officiated by Thomas A. Welch.

Additional details:

- Registrants must be at least eighteen (18) years old by the time of entry. Only one entry per couple will be accepted.
- Each couple will be allowed a maximum of eight (8) guests.
- Winner notification will include a set time period for access on Sunday, June 11, 2017 – unfortunately adjustments cannot be accommodated.
- Winners must complete a wedding ceremony agreement within 72 hours to claim their prize.
- Couples are responsible for coordinating their own marriage license for the officiant to sign.
- All vendors have been pre-selected; additional vendors will not be permitted.

• Each couple will be onsite for approximately one (1) hour – this includes a 15 minute ceremony followed by a 30-minute mini-photography session.

Please visit www.bpl.org/ceremonygiveaway for additional rules and conditions of the giveaway, and contact the Special Events Office with any questions at 617.859.2212 or events@bpl.org with the subject line “BPL Wedding Ceremony Giveaway.”

Boston Public Library hosts private events year-round featuring ornately-designed spaces with a variety of capacities that are ideal settings for holiday parties, corporate conferences, weddings, and more. Visit www.bpl.org/central/eventspaces.htm or email events@bpl.org for more information.

Window into the State House Continued from page 4

The Globe’s Laura Krantz and Jim O’Sullivan, meanwhile, take a look at how Healey and other Democratic AGs across the country are emerging as a legal “thin blue line” against all sorts of Trump policies, not just on immigration.

Federal judge launches probe of fee padding by law firms

From the Globe’s Andrea Estes: “A federal judge plans to appoint a special master to investigate whether prominent law firms in Boston and other cities padded their legal bills by millions in a class-action lawsuit against State Street Bank, saying

the lawyers may have to pay up to \$2 million, in advance, to fund the investigation.” The fee of the managing partner’s brother jumped from \$53 an hour as a court-appointed lawyer to \$500 an hour, Estes notes. **Won’t be missed: T gives heave to parking-lot operator**

From Commonwealth’s Jack Sul-

livan: “The MBTA’s oversight board voted to approve a potential 15-year contract with one of the country’s biggest parking management companies, ending a troubled relationship with its longtime lot operator that resulted in missing revenues that went into the millions.” At least the vendor won’t be missed.



‘BRING YOUR OWN BOTTLE’ PERMITS AVAILABLE

Mayor Martin J. Walsh and the City of Boston’s Licensing Board announced that applications for ‘Bring Your Own Bottle’ (BYOB) permits are now available online for restaurants who meet certain eligibility requirements. Applications will be accepted beginning on Monday, February 6.

“For the first time in our city’s history, restaurants are allowed to take advantage of BYOB,” said Mayor Walsh. “This measure will bring increased economic opportunity to Boston’s neighborhood restaurants and help our city’s economic growth overall. I would like to thank the Boston City Council and Boston Licensing Board for their work on this initiative, and look forward to the great results.”

“I’m excited to see Boston officially open license applications for BYOB, creating a new way

for neighborhood restaurants to thrive and more options for consumers to dine local. Thank you to Mayor Walsh and the Boston Licensing Board for working with the City Council to make this a reality for our city,” said City Council President Michelle Wu.

A restaurant who wishes to apply must meet the following eligibility requirements:

- Common Victualler license holders must obtain a BYOB permit prior to allowing patrons to bring alcoholic beverages into their premise;
- Common Victualler license holders with a capacity of 30 or less may apply;
- Only Common Victualler license holders who offer on premise dining with table service provided by wait staff may apply for a BYOB permit;
- Restaurants holding any type of alcoholic beverage license granted by the Licensing Board

or the Massachusetts Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission (ABCC) are not eligible to hold a BYOB permit;

- The licensee, manager of record and all employees must complete an in-person, insurance industry-approved safe service of alcohol training program, prior to issuance of a BYOB permit;
- Restaurants in the Downtown, North End, South End, Bay Village, Fenway, Chinatown, Seaport, West End, Beacon Hill and Back Bay neighborhoods are not eligible.

Patrons dining at a restaurant that obtains a BYOB permit may only bring no more than 750ml per person of wine and 64 oz per person of malt beverages. Distilled spirits, liqueurs and cordials are not permitted.

Once a BYOB application is filed with the Boston Licensing Board, a hearing will be scheduled.



Helipad Construction on Hold: An Update

For those following the issue of the proposed Boston Helipad and haven’t yet heard, the building of it and the location are both on hold, at least for now.

It seems that city and state officials were listening and paying close attention to objections raised by not only local residents but also business owners who have voiced strong concerns at the least and some outright opposition.

The hearing on the project which was scheduled for last Monday, which would have been the second meeting, was cancelled with no word as to when or if there will be another.

The Raymond L Flynn Marine Park was the proposed site of the helipad but concerns about noise and traffic and even if there was a need at all for it, considering the area’s close proximity to Logan Airport and the Ted Williams Tunnel have put all plans in Limbo.

The proposal for the Helipad was made as part of a 120 million dollar incentive to bring the General Electric Company to Boston. These funds would come from State Funds; taxpayer’s money which is another reason for opposition on the part of some residents. Officials have now stated that other potential sites for the helipad will be considered in the ongoing search for a suitable location.

A recent article in the Boston Globe had a quote from Jay Ash, who is an economic development aide to Governor Baker saying the following: “We want to make sure we’re doing the right thing. GE would benefit from it but so would other companies.”

Doing the right thing is by far what is needed. Said one local opponent of the Helipad in response to the comment by Ash: “Doing the right thing should always be the way to go. And listening to the legitimate concerns of impacted businesses and residents should always be a priority before considering any project in the City of Boston or anywhere else for that matter.”

So as it stands at this time, the Helipad is on hold with no decision made at the current time as to its future - at least publically.



Timothy Smyth, Jr.

South Boston Student Inducted into BC High's National Honor Society

Timothy Smyth, Jr. of South Boston, a junior at Boston College High School, was one of the 157 students inducted into the Robert J. Fulton, SJ chapter of the National Honor Society at the Hunter-Fahey Commons on January 26, 2017.

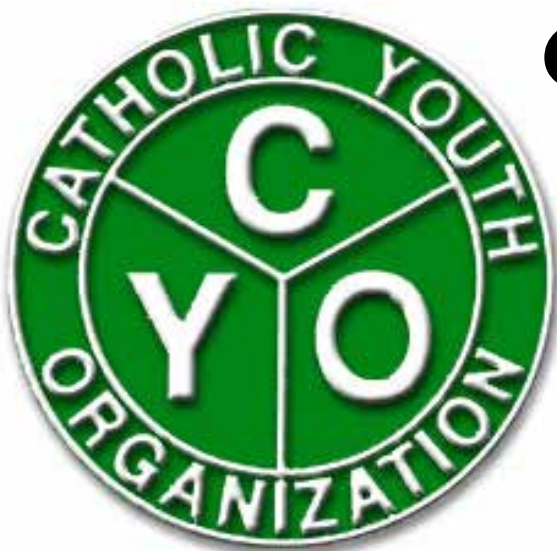
The National Honor Society Officers welcomed the guests and

spoke about the pillars of excellence that guides the work of the Society: scholarship, character, leadership and service. New members received congratulations and certificates from Principal Stephen Hughes '73 and Assistant Principal Charles Drane. Earlier, the inductees received gold NHS pins that were worn on their

jacket lapels during the ceremony.

NHS Moderator Patricia Keenan-Byrne welcomed the new members. NHS Officer Gerard Frasca of Melrose invited English teacher Tonya Winter to address the group. The topic of Ms. Winter's address was "Failure". She noted that many highly-accomplished figures like Win-

ston Churchill, Thomas Edison, and Dr. Seuss, all experienced significant failures, but learned from their failures and persisted on. She encouraged students not to avoid risks of failure inherent in worthy pursuits. "Dr. Matthew Finnegan and the BC High Concert Band provided the music for the ceremony.



GATEY C.Y.O. FUNDRAISER

The Gate of Heaven Catholic Youth Organization will be holding its 30th Annual Fundraiser on Saturday, February 25th, in the Gatey Lower Church Parish Hall, after the 4:00 p.m. mass, 5:00 to 7:30 p.m.

This year's fundraiser will consist of an Open Bar Cocktail Reception with hors d'oeuvres, Entertainment, a Five Hundred Dollar Grand Prizes Drawing and the presentation of our Annual Father Donovan – Catholic Youth Award, Father White – Woman of the Year Award, and

Jack McDonough – Men's Alumni Award.


This is an opportunity for old teammates, alumni, family, friends and new neighbors to get together for a good time while supporting the programs the C.Y.O. provides for the youth of South Boston. Tickets are \$100.00 per person and \$150 a couple.

For tickets or more info contact: Touchie McDonough 617-792-8570, Kevin & Kathy Lally 268-0536, or any of the committee members or coaches.

Recent South Boston Real Estate Sales



Property/Type	Price	Sale Date	Rooms	Baths	Sq Ft
141 Dorchester Ave UNIT 502 Condo	\$1,259,000	1/9/17	5	2	1658
771 East Broadway UNIT 8 Condo	\$980,000	12/31/16	7	2	2300
488 Dorchester Ave UNIT 21 Condo	\$960,000	12/30/16	3	2	1705
437 D St UNIT 6B Condo	\$880,000	12/29/16	3	1	1497
299 West Second Street Single Family	\$875,000	1/6/17	6	1.5	1638
519 East First St UNIT 2 Condo	\$845,000	1/4/17	4	2.5	1351
110 O St UNIT PH 11 Condo	\$835,000	1/6/17	5	2	1357
35 Channel Ctr St UNIT 404 Condo	\$830,000	1/9/17	3	1.5	995
138 M Street Condo	\$790,000	1/6/17	7	2	1771
781 East Broadway UNIT 2 Single Family	\$790,000	12/30/16	6	2	1565
542 Dorchester Ave UNIT PH3 Condo	\$770,000	1/6/17	4	2	1252
78 H Street Two Family	\$760,000	12/30/16	6	3	2208
882-884 East Broadway UNIT 1 Condo	\$739,000	12/28/16	5	2.5	1420
488 Dorchester Ave UNIT 2E Condo	\$729,000	12/28/16	3	2	1331
589 East Second St UNIT 3 Condo	\$672,000	12/28/16	5	1.5	1024
156 West Third St UNIT 156 Condo	\$649,000	12/30/16	5	1.5	1200
242 West Fifth St UNIT PHO3 Condo	\$630,000	1/6/17	4	2	834
242 West Fifth St UNIT 2 Condo	\$605,000	1/5/17	4	2	750
695 East Eighth St UNIT PH3 Condo	\$549,000	1/5/17	4	1	786
156 I St UNIT 3 Condo	\$549,000	12/29/16	4	1	695
134-136 West Ninth St UNIT 4 Condo	\$490,000	12/28/16	3	1	715
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Next Tuesday Is Valentine's Day. Celebrate 'Southie Style'

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY - By Staff

Yes, the weather is freezing and though it could be a whole lot nicer, it's not been a bad winter. But, none of that should interfere with Valentine's Day in South Boston – 2017. Flowers, candy, dinner, maybe a chilled bottle of wine in a romantic setting; all of these things and more, often come to mind when couples; whether married or dating think of Valentine's Day.

This unique, unofficial holiday is said to have been based on the legend of one or more early Christian Saints named 'Valentinus'. The most well-known St. Valentine lived during the time of the Roman Empire and was said to have performed weddings for soldiers, who were forbidden to marry while in the Roman Army. Captured, arrested and later executed for his 'crimes', his fame lives on to this day.

And still, here in 2017, Valentine's Day means so much to so many. It truly is a tradition that has endured the test of time. Certainly, the candy companies and florists love this time

of year. It's a huge business as the mad rush for flowers to send to that special someone ups the prices to sometimes 3 to 4 times what they usually are the rest of the year. Diets are often put on hold, so that the thoughtful gifts of chocolates can be enjoyed and savored. But those couples in love are more than happy to pay the higher prices. Well, if not happy to pay, willing at least. And as we've all noticed to be the case more each year, no sooner do the Christmas decorations and items come down from the shelves in many stores, the red décor of Valentine's Day appears in their place.

Restaurants prepare for the occasion by making their establishments extra appealing creating that romantic atmosphere that softly states that yes indeed, this is a special day in the hearts of those in love. Reservations often need to be made well in advance if you expect to be able to get a table. And often the big question of 'Will you marry me?' is popped as many engagements over the centuries have

commenced on February 14th.

Here in South Boston we have quite a few fine establishments more than capable of accommodating the most perfectly thought out plans. Cafe Porto Bello on East Broadway comes to mind with its quiet romantic atmosphere and fine Italian cuisine. There is also Barlow's, Coppersmith's, Stephi's, Seapoint, Legal Seafood, Morton's, Salvatore's and so many other excellent restaurants and florists too as good as if not better than any that can be found anywhere. And if you really want to make it that special day to remember, well, gold, diamonds and other precious stones can be found locally at Murphy's Jewelers with selections to rival any of the larger chain stores. If you don't see what you want, Bill Cosetta, owner of Murphy's can get it for you. Murphy's Jewelry has moved its location to 403 W. First Street and still offers that fine quality merchandise and the best service around with great prices.

You may want to take in a romantic

sunrise or sunset at Castle Island or along Carson Beach and that part of the day won't cost you a penny, but might bring rewards worth far more than material items, if it sets the mood just right. Whatever is needed to have a memorable Valentine's Day can be found right here in our neighborhood. Why not take advantage?

So, if this coming Tuesday you get the feeling that love is in the air maybe even more than any other day, a quick look at the calendar, February 14th just might explain why. It's Valentine's Day. And if you're married, engaged or romantically involved in any way, here's a bit of advice from your friends here at South Boston Today: You could be in for some serious trouble if you find that you have forgotten this of all days. And finally, if nothing else, stop and think back to the first time you saw that special someone and what it was that made your heart move like it never has before and celebrate the love of your life. Happy Valentine's Day to all!

JOHN CICCONE
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

hardest to indoctrinate Americans. Compared to other years, Super Bowl commercials this year were boring, preachy and political and in a sense insulting. Americans don't like to be told how and what to think and believe by out of touch CEO's of big companies and organizations with an agenda while they are trying to enjoy an event like the Super Bowl or for that matter, any other event. But the flyover by the squad of Fighter Jets is always impressive and this year it was also great and stayed true to form.

And just a comment about Bill Belichick

and Tom Brady. During the whole ordeal with so called 'Deflate Gate', Brady, to his credit, maintained his poise and his dignity. And Coach Belichick – what can you say? You've got to love this guy. He takes no bull from the sports media. We've often heard about reporters and sports writers complaining that he gives them no respect. Well, in order to get respect, you need to give it. This is something these media types will never learn. This is a coach who has absolutely no fear of the press and it's great entertainment watching him constantly putting these media hacks in their place.

I'll end this week's column with a quote going

viral on social media that is giving many a reason to ponder the question it asks at the end. It's directed toward some of the protestors railing against President Trump's proposed extreme vetting of refugees coming in from certain countries with heavy terrorist influences. Read it and see what you think: "On Mondays, they march and protest for Gay Rights. On Tuesdays, they march and protest for Women's Rights. Yet, on Wednesdays, they march and protest and demand that people, who believe in and tolerate neither, be allowed into our country by the tens of thousands. Can it get any more inconsistent, foolish or dumb?? Let that sink in.



Celebrate Presidents' Day Week at the JFK Library

The John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum will offer several family-oriented activities and programs throughout Presidents' Day week, including its signature Presidents' Day Family Festival on February 20th featuring presidential storytelling, activities and performances, and a Celebrate! family series presentation of Black History Hall of Fame by Bright Star Touring Theatre on February 22nd. Family-friendly Highlights Tours will be offered throughout the week.

This year, the Family Festival will also host the release of a commemorative stamp from the United States Postal Service in honor of President Kennedy's 100th birthday.

\$2 Off Museum Admission with Special Buzzword

In celebration of Presidents' Day week, the JFK Library will reveal a special buzzword on Facebook and Twitter. Visitors who provide the buzzword upon admission during the week of February 20-24, 2017 will receive \$2 off admission prices. **Presidents' Day Family Festival Monday, February 20, 2017 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

The Family Festival will kick

off at 10:00 a.m. with a special dedication ceremony, presented in partnership with the United States Postal Service, to unveil the First-Day-of-Issue John Fitzgerald Kennedy Commemorative Forever Stamp in honor of the John F. Kennedy Centennial. The stamp features a 1960 photograph by Ted Spiegel of Kennedy campaigning for president in Seattle, Washington. The artwork accompanying the stamp, showing Kennedy in a reflective pose, is a 1970 oil painting by Aaron Shikler (courtesy of the White House / White House Historical Association). The stamp will be exclusively available at the Family Festival and sold nationwide in Post Offices on February 21. The stamp dedication is free and open to the public.

<http://www.jfklibrary.org/About-Us/News-and-Press/Press-Releases/2017-Centennial-Stamp-Ceremony.aspx>

The main activities for the Family Festival begin at 10:30 a.m. Actors portraying the Mount Rushmore presidents – George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Abraham Lincoln, and Theodore Roosevelt – will be on site to share stories and engage visitors in conversation.

Festival goers can try out hands-on history crafts including the design of postage stamps and White House china, the building of space capsules, and the making of tricorne or stovepipe hats to wear to meet our guest presidents. Participants can celebrate the centennial of President Kennedy's birth by designing maritime scrimshaw or making origami sailboats and their own Kennedy campaign hat. The Festival will close with a special free concert by the Harvard Din & Tonics, who will perform Kennedy campaign songs and popular music from the last hundred years in honor of the Centennial Celebration.

Visit www.jfklibrary.org/presidentsday for a detailed schedule of the Family Festival offerings.

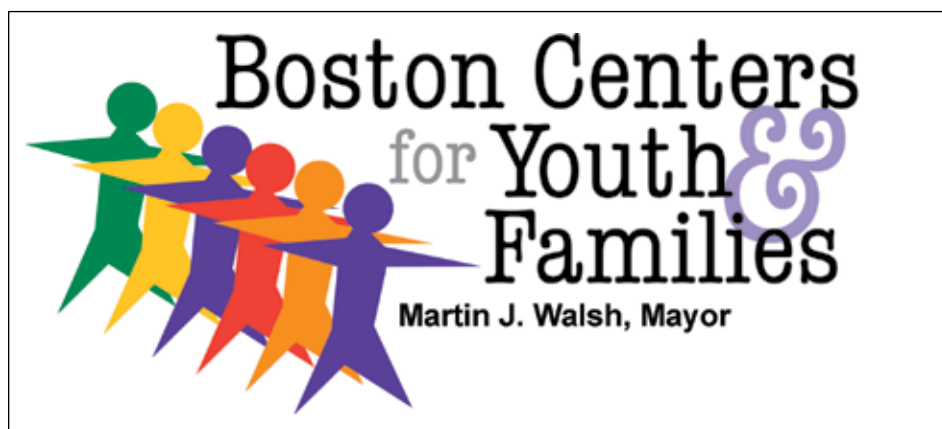
Special Festival activities are free with paid admission and visitors ages 17 and under are admitted free of charge on Festival day. Regular admission fees apply to all other visitors. The opening Stamp Dedication ceremony and closing Harvard Din & Tonics concert are free for all. The Family Festival is especially appropriate for ages 5 and up. **Celebrate! with Bright Star Touring Theatre – Black History**

Hall of Fame

Wednesday, February 22, 2017 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

On Wednesday, February 22, Bright Star Touring Theatre will present this fast-paced performance Black History Hall of Fame portraying over a dozen groundbreakers and hall-of-famers who contributed to shaping the nation's past, present, and future in honor of African American Heritage Month. Young audience volunteers help the cast bring this show to life.

The Celebrate! series, appropriate for family audiences and children ages 5 and up, highlights America's rich cultural diversity through the arts. This program reflects President and Mrs. Kennedy's concern for and support of the arts and culture as important components of a democratic society. In order to optimize your comfort and enjoyment, reservations are required for all visitors to this free program. Make reservations by visiting www.jfklibrary.org/celebrate or calling 617-514-1644 and leaving a message. Children are seated on the floor with their caretakers. Space is available on a first-come, first-served basis. Children must be accompanied by an adult.



TYNAN HAPPENINGS

COMPLETE AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM

The children took time out last week to create and design valentine cards for Senior's in the Boston area. Talysha, Sean and Jamali made some great designs and had very kind words to say. All participants have been working hard on their homework and enjoying board games and gym class. The Cast Program is from 2:30-6:00pm.

There are still slots available for anyone interested. Cost is \$80 month. Call for further information @ (617) 635-5110.

GYM NOTES INSTRUCTIONAL BASKETBALL

Registration was held last week for our 5-7-year-old instructional basketball. At this time the class is full to capacity and a waiting list has been established. The

children will begin classes this week and will focus on the fundamentals of basketball; shooting, passing and dribbling.

TOTS GYM

It was a busy last week with the younger participants. They enjoyed Keep it Up with a large beach ball as well as tennis and bowling. Tot stars of the week were Ronan Foley and Corey Radzik.

YOUTH FLOOR HOCKEY LEAGUE

BCYF-Tynan kicked off the 2017 hockey season last week. In the first game the Leafs took on the Red Wings. Red Wings took an early lead and never looked back, taking the victory, 6-2. Jerry O'Neil netted 4 goals for the Red Wings and Andrew Erico and Kate Greene score a goal apiece for the Leafs. In the following game the Capitals defeated the Wild by the score of 7-3. Terry Markos had a strong game for the Capitals scoring 5 goals. Mac McMullen had 2

goals and Liam Long 1 goal for the Wild. The final game turned out to be a thriller between the Kings and Penguins. With less than a minute to go in regulations, the Penguins scored to tie it up. Neither team could score in the overtime so we proceeded to a shootout. Rocco Blasi came up big for the Kings scoring the winning goal.

Friday's games are as follows: 2/10/17
3:45 Capitals vs. Leafs
4:20 Red Wings vs. Penguins
5:00 Wild vs. Kings

ADULT COED VOLLEYBALL

We are halfway through the 2016-17 season. League fees are due at this time. We can only accept money orders or checks for payment. Standings as of 2/2/2017 are as follows:

Team 6 - 10-0
Team 1 - 5-5
Team 2 - 5-5
Team 5 - 5-5
Team 4 - 3-7
Team 3 - 2-8

Continued from front page
Super Bowl LI Patriots Victory

Boston's history has always attracted it fair share of tourists, especially families and conventioners visiting the USS Constitution, Faneuil Hall, Tea Party, Plymouth Plantation and the Mayflower, Old North Church and the Freedom Trail. But the growing sports dynamic that has had owners investing millions in its venues, a la an expanded Fenway Park, TD Bank Garden and Patriot Place, has enlivened the discussion about siting a soccer stadium to bring Major League and World Soccer to the burgeoning international population of Greater Boston. Super Bowl LI has likely emboldened the owners of the New England Patriots, who also own MLS New England Revolution, to move aggressively on bringing a 5th major professional team to Boston in the hope of enhancing the prospect of adding to its market growth and international appeal.

Major League Professional Sports is big business, in general. Soccer, in many big cities worldwide, is, comparatively, almost as big as Major League Baseball and as big as the NBA and NHL combined. To quote our new President – It's Yuge! In the United States, the NFL generated



\$13 billion. The MLB generated \$9.5 billion. ML Soccer, \$3 billion; plus, the Premier Soccer League, \$5.5 billion: total \$8.5 billion. The NBA, \$4.8 billion. The NHL, \$3.7 billion; combined, \$8.5 billion. The NFL outpaces them all.

The Kraft Group is a savvy enterprise. A new and market-appropriate size stadium is only part of the formula, but a necessary one. The real value is in the opportunity for merchandising to a rabid soccer constituency here in Greater Boston. As has been reported here, the stakes are high for The NE Revolution and the Krafts,



but they are just as high for the City of Boston, UMass Boston and the future of the real estate holdings around Columbia Point, which is the target of their game plan. If the positive effect of Wynn Boston Harbor on Somerville and Everett's job opportunities and real estate values are as significant as predicted, then any remaining opposition here could be mitigated over time, if Kraft uses the same strategy.

With the fan euphoria so high after the Super Bowl victory and celebration, it is easy to understand the power that successful sports teams have over human psyche, impulse buying, community

spirit and the attendant mass marketing strategies of advertisers. It possibly rivals even politics and elections.

Robert Kraft instinctively knows this and the Super Bowl LI historic comeback tale may emerge as a psychological boost for the acceleration of negotiations among the stadium stakeholders, but could become a Trojan horse for unsuspecting residents of the Dorchester and South Boston, who are likewise not immune from the effect of euphoria. Again, residents would do well to pay attention to the process. Remember, sports is big business.



BOSTON BOYS & GIRLS YOUTH LACROSSE REGISTRATION

Boston Youth Lacrosse will be holding a registration for the 2017 season for the Boys & Girls teams at the following location, date and time. We are still looking at players for the boy's & girl's teams.

Date Monday February 13, 2017 at the Murphy Rink, 1880 Day Blvd. South Boston, MA 02127 6pm-8pm

All registrations are on-line, so we will make computers available to parents and help guide them through the registration processes, a credit card is needed to register.

There will be 4 Boys & 4 Girls teams this year.

- 15 and under/7th & 8th Grade - Boys & Girls - U15 Player is Under 15 years of age as of January 1st prior to start of season.

- 13 and under/5th & 6th Grade - Boys & Girls - U13 - Player is Under 13 years of age as of January

1st prior to start of season.

- 11 and under/3rd & 4th Grade - Boys & Girls - U11 - Player is Under 11 years of age as of January

1st prior to start of season

- 9 and under Instructional/ Kindergarten, 1st & 2nd Grade -

- Boys & Girls - U9 - Player is Under 9 years of age as of January 1st prior to start of season.

Fees for 2017:

- Girls U9 = \$50
- Girls U11, U13, U15 = \$100
- Boys U9 = \$50
- Boys U11, U13, U15 = \$125

NOTE: Girls must secure \$30 USL membership before registration with BYLA

Boys must secure \$40 MBYLL membership (which includes USL fees) before registering with BYLA

The 2017 season will begin with our first practice on March 4, 2017 and first game on April 2

PARKS DEPT. HOSTS INDOOR SOFTBALL CLINICS

The Boston Parks and Recreation Department will host a series of free Indoor Softball Clinics for girls ages 9 to 18 during the upcoming February school vacation week.

The clinics will be held on February 21, 22, and 23 from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Tobin Community Center located at 1481 Tremont Street, Roxbury Crossing. Instruction by UMass Boston collegiate softball team players will include the fundamentals of throwing, catching, fielding, pitching, and hitting.

Please note that the clinics are free but all participants must bring their own gloves. For more information please contact Larelle Bryson at (617) 961-3092 or email larelle.bryson@boston.gov.



WE ADVERTISE ON BOOKSALEFINDER.COM

The Friends of the South Boston Branch Library present a special
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Saturday, February 11 • 10am - 3pm

Join the Friends of the South Boston Branch at their special Book Sale, where you'll find books, DVDs, CDs, and audiobooks for adults, teens, and children available at the lowest prices around. This special sale includes a Bake Sale of homemade treats, just in time for Valentine's Day! Come and meet our Friends-and maybe become one yourself! All proceeds from the Friends' book and bake sales benefit the South Boston Branch Library.

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CHILDREN'S WINTER FEST RETURNS TO BOSTON COMMON FEBRUARY 23

Mayor Martin J. Walsh today announced that the Boston Parks and Recreation Department will be bringing the annual Children's Winter Festival to Boston Common in partnership with the Highland Street Foundation during school vacation week on Thursday, February 23, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

"We are pleased to announce the return of the Children's Winter Festival on Boston Common," said Mayor Walsh. "We have some great activities for kids during the public school vacation week and we invite residents, families, and visitors to join us for a fun day in the city."

Among the attractions will be Snowzilla, a three-story-high

inflatable snow tube slide, the 15-foot-tall and 45-foot-long Toboggan Tunnel mountainous adventure with twin roller lanes, and the Snow Mazing maze. In addition, the Highland Street Foundation is sponsoring a week-long Winter Camp at the Boston Common Frog Pond with free skating and rentals for all ages from Monday, February 20, through Friday, February

24. For more information on the Winter Camp skating, please visit www.highlandstreet.org.

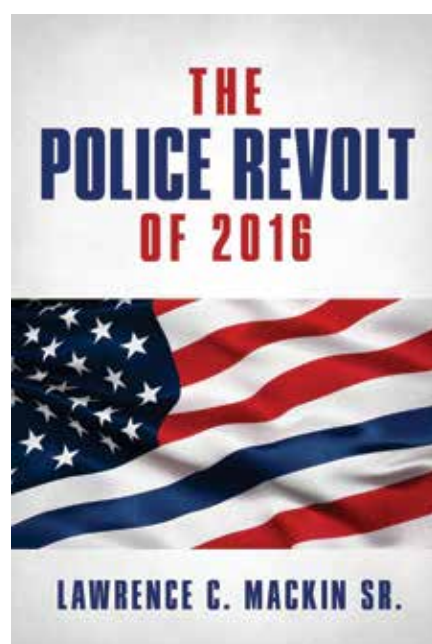
The festival will also feature a DJ from Magic 106.7, the Museum of Science Chocolate Truck with facts about chocolate and free hot chocolate samples, an appearance by the L.L.Bean Bootmobile with their popular Boot Toss game, giveaways from Summit Premiere's "Rock Dog" and Columbia Picture's "Smurfs: The Lost Village," and refreshments from DAVIDsTEA and KIND Snacks. In addition, the Appalachian Mountain Club's Outdoors Rx program will present activities including a snowshoe obstacle course, scavenger hunts, and a winter play party.

Additional support is being provided by the Floating Hospital for Children at Tufts Medical Center and Fisher College. For more information, please call the Boston Parks and Recreation Department at (617) 635-4505, visit www.cityofboston.gov/parks or go to www.facebook.com/bostonparksdepartment.

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PETER WELCH'S GYM
SOUTH BOSTON, MA

2017 March 17th Boxing Show Tryouts

Yes it's back, Tommy McGrath, President of the South Boston Citizens Association along with Peter Welch, owner of Peter Welch's Gym at 371 Dorchester Ave. South Boston, will again be sponsoring this year's March 17th Boxing Show. After a one year absents this year's show will take place on Saturday Night, March 11th at the Peter Welch's Gym, in South Boston. Admission is free of charge to all.

The South Boston Citizens' Association March 17th Boxing Show has been part of the events put together by the Citizens' Association for over 75 years, and at the request of many past and present South Boston residents, it was clear the Boxing Show has been missed, and needed to be returned.

This year's Boxing Show Chairman, Newly Elected Suffolk Register of

Deeds, Stephen Murphy, along with Peter Welch, Owner of Welch's Gym will be looking for young boxers of all ages to participate in this year's show. Every young man or ladies who participates in this year's show will be awarded a trophy.

Tryouts will be held on Tuesday's and Thursday's at 3:00pm, starting Tuesday February 7th at 3pm at the Peter Welch Gym, 371 Dorchester Ave. South Boston.

All young man or ladies will be trained by expert staff such as Peter Welch, Tommy Connors, Danny Long, Jimbo Curran. All tryouts and training are free to every young man or ladie participating in this year's show. All boxers will be matched, by age, weight, and experience and must report to the Peter Welch's Gym with a mouth-guard, shorts and sneakers...



This week, Danny reacted to the Patriots' win in Super Bowl LI:

Here we are, nearly a week after Super Bowl LI, and I'm still in shock.

The New England Patriots defeated the Atlanta Falcons, 34-28 in overtime. Tom Brady was named Super Bowl MVP. And to think, with 10 minutes left in the fourth quarter, the Patriots trailed 28-9.

Stephen Gostkowski kicked a 33-yard field goal with 9:44 left in the 4th to cut Atlanta's lead to 28-12. But still, at that point, the Pats would need two touchdowns and a successful two-point conversion on each of those two touchdowns, just to tie the game at 28.

Let's face it, if anybody was going to pull it off, it was going to be Brady. That's honestly how I felt after Gostkowski's second field goal of the game. I even felt that way at halftime, after Gostkowski's first field goal of the game with two seconds left in the second quarter that made it a 21-3 game.

That's right, trailing 21-3 at the half, I still felt as if the Patriots had a chance to win. I wasn't happy, by any means, but I knew that Brady wasn't going to go down like this.

Then the third quarter began. The Patriots forced the Falcons offense to a three-and-out on the first possession of the second half.

Here we go. This was it. The Patriots were going to march down the field and make it 21-10.

Not so fast.

As Julian Edelman dropped a pass right in his hands on 3rd-and-12 at their own 45-yard line, I started to lose hope. The Patriots had a golden opportunity to get back in the game, and instead, they went three-and-out.

Atlanta then drove 85 yards and scored its fourth touchdown of the game, taking a commanding 28-3 lead with 8:31 left in the third quarter.

If that wasn't the moment I gave up on the game, then Julian Edelman's incomplete cross-field double-pass on 3rd-and-3 during the ensuing possession was. Brady took the snap and threw it slightly behind him and to his left, where Edelman caught it and then sent a pass of his own across the field to a streaking Dion Lewis down the right sideline.

The incomplete pass brought up a 4th-and-3 at the Patriots 46-yard line. It also had me wondering how I could keep hope alive if the Pats had already given up. And to me — even though Edelman was a quarterback and college and has completed this type of pass before — if that's the play they drew up on third down with the Super Bowl on the line, then they had essentially

pulled out all the stops.

And if they couldn't beat them with the kitchen sink, that would be the unfortunate end to the season.

Then Brady found Danny Amendola on 4th-and-3 for a first down. Seven plays later, James White scored the Patriots' first touchdown of the game. When Gostkowski missed the extra point, I still didn't feel too good while trailing 28-9 with two minutes left in the third quarter.

The Patriots forced the Falcons to punt, and Gostkowski's second field goal to make it a 28-12 game with 9:44 left had everyone playing out the scoring scenarios in their head.

"Get a turnover, score a quick touchdown and a two-point conversion, get the ball back, and score another touchdown with no time left, and tie the game with another two-point conversion."

Almost as fast as you could play out that perfect scenario in your head, Dont'a Hightower hit Atlanta quarterback Matt Ryan on 3rd-and-1 and forced a fumble, which was recovered by New England defensive lineman Alan Branch at the Falcons 25-yard line. And five plays later, Brady found Amendola for a touchdown with 5:56 left in the fourth quarter. Then, James White ran in a direct snap for a successful

two-point conversion to make it a 28-20 game.

Time was still a factor. So when the Falcons drove down to the Patriots 22-yard line, it was a sobering moment, realizing that they were suddenly in field-goal range, and a field goal would have ended the game.

But after Trey Flowers sacked Ryan for a loss of 12 yards, and an offensive holding call pushed Atlanta back to the Patriots 45-yard line, a comeback was once again realistic.

Atlanta pinned the Patriots inside their own 10-yard line with a punt, giving Brady 3:30 to drive 91 yards, score a touchdown, and put in another two-point conversion.

That's exactly what he did, and the Patriots tied the game at 28, sending it to overtime, where Brady cemented his legacy as the greatest of all time.

Brady led an eight-play, 75-yard drive and James White dove into the end zone, just far enough to get the ball to cross the goal line, and the Patriots completed the greatest comeback in Super Bowl history.

And yes, I'm still in shock. *Listen to "The Danny Picard Show" at dannypicard.com. Also available on iTunes and Google Play. And you can hear Danny every weekend on WEEI 93.7 FM.*

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