General Electric on Monday officially kicked off construction for its new $200 million headquarters overlooking the South Boston Fort Point Channel, just over a year after the industrial giant made the decision to relocate to Boston from Connecticut.

CONTINUED ON page 5

South Boston’s Fort Point Area Becoming Choice Corporate Office and Entrepreneurs Locale

Urban Explorers Summer Program
St Peter Academy 371 West Fourth Street South Boston MA

FRIENDSHIP, ACCOMPLISHMENT, FUN

Program Hours: 9:00 am – 4:00 pm
Early 8:00 am & Extended 4:00 – 6:00 pm Hours Available
Weekly Program Cost:
General & Community $260.00.
Early & Extended Hours Cost: $5.00 an hour.

Urban Explorers will engage in exciting and creative weekly curriculum components that encourage life-long learning through literacy, creative arts, sports, games, swimming, field trips, STEM projects, and community exploration. Designed as an active and engaging environment, children build friendships and strengthen self-esteem and confidence in a positive, caring and safe environment.

Summer Program June 26 to August 25, 2017
Register Online:
StPeterAcademy.com/Summer-Program/
Or Request a Registration Form by Calling the School 617-268-0750
Or By Email SPA@StPeterAcademy.com

Program Age Groups
Little Explorers Ages 3 – 5 Years Old
Junior Explorers Ages 6 – 9 Years Old
Urban Explorers Ages 10 – 12+ Years Old
EDITORIAL

It’s South Boston not SoBo, Boston by the Sea or Seaport 02127

There are many efforts taking place with the goal of enticing people from pretty much every part of the country to relocate to our community. But most residents of our neighborhood know this already. It’s often said that there are more construction sites and condos going up than there are grains of sand on Carson Beach. And to be frank, we can see why. This area has much to offer. Lots of green space for being part of a big city and our three miles of beaches make it very attractive as well. Combine this with our close proximity to downtown, streets that are by comparison to other sections of Boston, pretty safe - thanks in large part to the folks who have lived here for generations and a dedicated squad of top notch police officers, and who can fault people for wanting to settle here?

But for whatever reason, we’ve noticed that this town of ours has of late begun to be referred to by names other than South Boston. People have noticed some promotional efforts are unofficially re-labeling it with names like ‘SoBo’, ‘Boston by the Sea’, ‘Seaport 02127’ and a variety of names other than what it actually is. We understand that there is no intentional disrespect meant to local residents. More likely those promoting the name changes think that by doing so, they are engaging in smart marketing practices to get better results for their investments. We guess that in the opinions of some, it’s just good business.

While we believe it isn’t meant to be a personal slight against our town and the proud people who live here, many locals have indicated that this effort isn’t appreciated. This neighborhood’s proper name is South Boston, also affectionately known as ‘Southie’ by those whose roots run deep and it should remain so.

“As full of spirit as the month of May, and as gorgeous as the sun in mid-summer” - William Shakespeare
O
k, what’s going on? Some of the things that have been happening in South Boston are more like what goes on in other places but seldom here. The murder of the two doctors last week has people, living in that part of the community, justifiably shaken. But it is also causing concern and sending a few shock waves through the rest of the town as well. And, why wouldn’t it? Two residents found to have had their throats cut is far from being a common occurrence here. This isn’t Chicago.

The alleged killer was shot by police and is in custody at this time. As of this writing we have no word on when the trial will be set and the full extent of the charges.

News reports continued to stress how much security was in place at the luxury condo complex where the attack took place. With the price of those condos we can only guess the safeguards were ‘state of the art’ in quality or at least should have been. This fact is causing people in every other part of South Boston and in fact all over the city of Boston to wonder if they are doing enough to safeguard their own homes or is it even possible to have enough protection.

Though as is often said on this page, the streets of Southie are pretty safe, when compared to other sections of Boston. Tragedies like this can happen anywhere and always without warning. So, it never hurts to secure your home with added precautions. Some of you may want to look into alarm systems, which can often be purchased for an inexpensive price, extra locks on your doors and even the windows, a dog is often a good deterrent to intruders and then of course there is always the trusty American tradition of taking advantage of our Constitutional Rights - specifically our Second Amendment. I’m sure I don’t have to spell that one out for you.

Other recommended options to help secure your safety, and in fact make the entire neighborhood safer, is to keep your eyes and ears open to any and all suspicious or unusual activity on your block. To repeat that commonly used saying “If you see something, say something”. If it turns out to be nothing, well, better to be safe than sorry. Dial 911, the police don’t mind and in fact encourage you to do so. We have darn good cops patrolling our streets who are dedicated to protecting the public’s safety. It’s not just a job they get paid to do, it’s a job they take very serious. ‘Protect and Serve’ isn’t just a motto printed on their cruisers, it’s what they have committed themselves to carry out.

And speaking of calling the police, an increasing number of residents are saying they are not comfortable bringing their kids to Moakley Field to participate in youth sports activities. Even though this is a big, beautiful and well maintained recreational park and resource, it’s being marred by illegal drug activity. It’s bad enough that users are often seen blatantly out in the open getting high on all sorts of substances, but what’s worse is that the drug dealers themselves frequent the area to sell their poison in plain sight. This isn’t how summer in South Boston is supposed to be, especially in an area where

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

Seriously, What’s Going On Around Here?
Baker talking with other governors about House health-care bill
Actually, it would be bigger news if Gov. Charlie Baker wasn’t talking with other governors about how to deal with the U.S. House’s gutting of ObamaCare, a move that could lead to the loss of billions of dollars in federal Medicaid funds now going to Massachusetts and other states. But Baker is indeed talking with other governors and might even start ringing actual senators, reports Matt Murphy at State House New Service.

Cambridge considers putting overdose drug in public spaces
Officials in Cambridge are considering becoming the first city in the country to make the anti-overdose drug naloxone available publicly, using secure boxes that could be unlocked with codes received through a 911 call, Katharine Q. Seelye of the New York Times reports. The city recently ran a test of the setup, challenging passersby to follow the process to administer the drug to a mannequin.

Earliest known recording of JFK released by Harvard
This is pretty cool: Harvard has found, and released, what it thinks is the earliest known recording of John F. Kennedy, speaking in 1937 at the age of 20 about President Franklin Roosevelt’s appointment of Hugo Black to the U.S. Supreme Court, reports Fred Thys at WBUR, which has the recording at its site. Kennedy’s long-ago voice sounds impressively mature for a 20-year-old.

No stopping it: Heart to Hub train keeps express status
The MBTA is backing off a plan to add stops to the year-old Heart to Hub commuter rail trips from Boston to Worcester in the evening, citing pushback from city officials and riders, Cyrus Moulton of the Telegram reports. The T now says it will give the service more time to develop a ridership base before deciding whether to pursue additional stops.

This Bud’s for you: State regulators accuse Anheuser-Busch of tipping the wrong people
From Dan Adams at the Globe: "Massachusetts regulators Tuesday extended their crackdown on anticompetitive practices in the beer industry to the biggest target of all, Anheuser-Busch, saying the brewing giant gave illegal incentives worth nearly $1 million to hundreds of Boston-area bars and package stores to push sales of Budweiser and its other drinks while stifling those of other brewers.”

Battle over sugary taxes anything but sweet
On another drinking front, public health advocates are once again pushing for a new state tax on sugary drinks (i.e. sodas) to “improve health, lower rates of preventable chronic disease and reduce health care costs over time,” as reported by Shira Schoenberg at MassLive. But the Massachusetts Beverage Association says such a tax, based on the sugar content within individual types of drinks, would only harm local grocers and do “nothing to address the real cause of obesity and related conditions.”

Meanwhile, another tax is already on its way. Asma Khalid of WBUR notes that Massachusetts will begin collecting sales taxes on additional online purchases—just those from companies that have a physical presence in the state—starting on July 1.

Moulton blasts state’s two-track plans for N-S tunnel and South Station expansion
U.S. Rep. Seth Moulton is ripping into transportation chief Stephanie Pollack’s comments that the state can, for now, proceed with planning for both a North-South rail tunnel and South Station expansion, reports Bruce Mohl at CommonWealth. Moulton, an ardent supporter of the North-South project, says the South Station project is a “massive waste of $2 billion.”

Boston Latin ordered to hand over data in Harvard affirmative-action case
From Adam Gaffin at Universal Hub: “In a victory for an anti-affirmative action group suing Harvard, a federal judge this morning ordered Boston Latin School to produce all data and ‘all internal communications’ related to any concerns at BLS about the racial composition of Harvard’s admission policies - and to have one of its officials made available to discuss the issue under oath.”

Uber, Lyft and Everett mayor urge state to revise driver background checks
Ride-hailing giants Uber and Lyft are asking the state to revise its background-check rules for drivers, saying they punish drivers never technically convicted of motor-vehicle violations and go too far back in people’s driving histories, among other problems, writes the Globe’s Adam Vaccaro. Meanwhile, Everett Mayor Carlo DeMaria is also saying the background checks are too stringent, reports Jordan Graham at the Herald.
Many Questions Still Unanswered in Bizarre Double Murder

SBT Staff Report

The murder over the weekend of Dr. Richard Field and Dr. Lina Bolanos has not only been in the news in the Boston area, it has also been carried and continues to be reported nationally, largely because of the violence and gruesome circumstances involved. At this time, law enforcement investigators were still trying to determine an actual motive for the crime. A bag of jewelry was found on the floor of the condo. It was also reported early on that there was a handgun on the scene but that it may have been just a replica.

To recap, over the weekend the double homicide was committed in a luxury penthouse at 141 Dorchester Avenue here in South Boston which is located just steps away from the Broadway MBTA Station. Police arrived to find the two victims dead and bound and both had their throats cut in a vicious attack. Also at the scene was the 30-year-old suspect, Bampumim Teixeira who was shot and seriously wounded by police. As of Tuesday, Teixeira remained in custody and under guard but in his hospital bed at Tufts New England Medical Center. Police sources have stated and it has been reported by the media that Dr. Fields had sent out a text to a friend telling him that his life was in danger and asking for help. It is not known why he did not call the police instead of first calling a friend. The friend who was contacted by Field’s text is the person who called the police. Police responded to the scene with a SWAT Team immediately after receiving the communication.

Early in the investigation, there were conflicting reports released from various news organizations. It was first thought that the victims and the alleged assailant knew each other but later, in a Monday statement by District Attorney Daniel Conley, it was said there was no evidence to back up that theory.

An early statement made by Boston Police Commissioner William Evans was that at least initially, it was believed that this may not have been a random attack.

Teixeira is said to have been found guilty and sentenced to jail time and recently released from prison for a bank robbery he pleaded guilty to. At this time, Bampumin will be held without bail and is being charged with murder. Other charges may follow as well. Many questions remain unanswered in what officials are calling a very bizarre case. As more details are learned they will release them to the public. Stay Tuned.

Fort Point Area Becoming Choice Corporate Office continued from front page

Mayor Martin J. Walsh, Governor Charlie Baker, and GE executives Jeff Immelt and Ann Klee all spoke to the crowd. Each of them retold elements of the story of how the company decided in January 2016 that it wanted to be in Boston, to be in a place considered a hotbed of innovation. “This town is going to be one of the most important cities in the world, and GE can be part of that renaissance,” said Immelt, GE’s chief executive.

GE joins a growing influx of businesses opting to locate their headquarters or a sizable portion of their workforce like LogMeIn, Red Hat, Circle and Zipcar. From an abandoned seaport used to import and export goods with warehousing for the textile industry to a hotbed of innovation, the transformation of South Boston’s Fort Point area has been dramatic. After years of neglect, a steady influx of startups and large-scale corporations are moving in and bolstering the Fort Point area of South Boston with new office buildings, co-working spaces, boutique hotels and restaurants at every corner.

Today, Fort Point is holding its own as a hotbed of innovation enterprises. The area’s history dates to the late 1800s and early 1900s, when the Boston Wharf Company moved in and dubbed the area a place of trade and business. The Boston Wharf Company traded sugar, molasses and wool, and they used the area for manufacturing and warehouse storage. As the 1950s approached, the textile industry in New England dwindled, and many of Fort Point’s businesses did as well, including Boston Wharf.

Attracted to the lofty industrial living spaces, artists began to replace the dying businesses, creating a burgeoning artists’ community that is an important segment of the civic life of South Boston. In the late 1990s, the then Boston Re-development Authority promoted renewed interest and investment in Fort Point, and planned the rezoning and rebuilding for an industrial district. Then Mayor Thomas Menino’s administration began marketing Fort Point as a “hub for innovative tech businesses”. And in 2010, the city developed 1,000 acres on the waterfront specifically for an “Innovation District”. Mayor Marty Walsh has continued this push to promote Boston’s reputation as a thriving innovation hub.

According to an analysis by South Boston Fort Point startup Catalant, ‘compared to other urban business areas, Fort Point is one of the most economically productive areas in the nation. In fact, since Fort Point was dubbed part of the innovation district in 2010, the area has produced more market value per square foot than innovation districts in New York City, Austin and Silicon Valley combined. From 2010 to 2016, Fort Point actually made $31,635 per square foot, compared to Silicon Valley’s $11,105. Fort Point startups have also attracted significant investment deals – nearly twice as many deals per square foot than Silicon Valley did in the past two years. Entrepreneurs with businesses outside of Boston have been relocating to Fort Point for a shot at investments. Similarly, many Boston-based entrepreneurs are now deciding to stay put instead of migrating to New York or San Francisco.’

The evolution of the South Boston Fort Point area, and its ability to attract the innovative companies, from startups to large enterprises, is a very promising sign for Boston. Job opportunities are always welcomed by the growing population of college graduates living in the South Boston and surrounding neighborhoods. The pressure on city services is outweighed by the value of the city’s and community’s support of the new economy. Let’s hope it continues for years to come.
Honoring the past and future of the Port of Boston

The Flynn Cruiseport Boston at the Black Falcon Terminal – dedicated May 4 -- is symbolic of Boston’s history and future. Representative Nick Collins sponsored the naming legislation that honors the contributions of former Boston Mayor and Ambassador Raymond L. Flynn, a son of South Boston, and champion of the Port of Boston.

When Mayor Flynn opened the Cruiseport in 1986, it welcomed 13 ships and a total of 11,723 passengers in its first season. This 2017 season is expected to set a record by welcoming more than 150 ship calls by 36 different ships and 19 cruise lines.

As Mayor, Ambassador Flynn laid the ground work for the nearly 1,000 direct jobs at the Cruiseport and made it an important contributor to the Massachusetts tourism industry. His commitment spurred the economic engine that is the Port of Boston, now the City’s 6th largest employer.

Raymond L. Flynn and the Port of Boston. Both treasured assets to our community.

brought to you by

massport
Officials Dedicate Raymond L. Flynn Cruiseport Boston

In a ceremony not far from the docks where former Mayor of Boston and U.S. Ambassador to the Holy See Raymond L. Flynn once worked as a young man, Governor Charlie Baker, elected officials, community members and children from South Boston, and Massport officially dedicated The Flynn Cruiseport Boston at The Black Falcon Terminal. The event also celebrated the annual kick off to the Boston cruise season.

“We are honored to dedicate this facility in honor of Ambassador Flynn and his service to the people of Boston, our Commonwealth and nation,” said Governor Charlie Baker. “A proud son of South Boston who worked these docks as a young man and would later become Mayor, Ambassador Flynn saw before many others the opportunity to build the economically vibrant seaport district we stand in today.”

When then Mayor Flynn opened the Cruiseport in 1986, it welcomed 13 ships and a total of 11,723 passengers in its first season. The 2017 season will welcome a record 64 homeport calls and 89 port-of-calls. The more than 150 total calls to Boston this season represent a 34 percent increase over the 2016 season, with service from 19 different cruise lines on 36 different ships, including five maiden calls. Cruise operations at Massport provide over 950 direct jobs; $25 million in annual local, state, and federal tax revenue and contribute nearly half a billion dollars to the regional economy.

“Today we honor a man whose vision and dedication to this city has led to transformative opportunities to Boston’s Seaport,” said Mayor Martin J. Walsh. “Ambassador Flynn never forgot his family’s roots in the shipyards of South Boston and he spent his life working to make life better for the people of this city.”

Ambassador Flynn was Mayor of Boston from 1984 until 1993 and, besides his many other important contributions, is well-remembered for his dedication to the preservation and celebration of the South Boston waterfront. Flynn, a native and longtime resident of South Boston, was appointed U.S. Ambassador to the Holy See in 1993. In his younger years, Flynn and several family members were dock workers in South Boston.

State Representative Nick Collins of South Boston sponsored legislation to officially rename the Cruiseport in honor of Ambassador Flynn to recognize his contributions to the neighborhood and the city. “As a young man, Ray Flynn went to work, like his father, on the South Boston Waterfront. As Mayor, he made the waterfront work for the people of Boston. His stewardship of the Marine Park that now bears his name and his promotion of Boston as a cruise destination helped make it the economic engine it is today,” said Representative Nick Collins. “Naming the Cruiseport after former Ambassador and Mayor Raymond L. Flynn couldn’t be more fitting and I was honored to sponsor legislation to do so.”

“I am humbled to have this historic American gateway for hundreds of thousands of soldiers, workers and visitors to be named in my honor,” said Ambassador Raymond L. Flynn. “The Terminal has been a vital part of the history of the Port of Boston which has provided a welcome to immigrants and a livelihood for generations of families of hard-working men and women like mine and will continue to do so. The future of this vital working port is critical to the future of America and this vibrant and diverse city.”

Royal Caribbean’s Anthem of the Seas was docked at the terminal for today’s celebration, which made its maiden call to Boston last year and is the largest ship ever to call Boston with 4,180 passengers. The ship is one of the newest in Royal Caribbean International’s fleet. Norwegian Cruise Line, Holland America Line and Seabourn will also offer a variety of Boston-based cruises departing Flynn Cruiseport Boston through November 2017.

“A proud son of South Boston, Ambassador Flynn’s connection to the Port of Boston runs deep. Ambassador Flynn has helped the City of Boston revive its industrial port, preserve blue collar jobs, and left an indelible mark on the history of our great city. It is fitting that his name is now tied to an area of the city which has such a rich history from welcoming immigrant families to the shores of Boston to serving as an Army and Naval base. And today, this area is part of the changing face of Boston with its rapid development, many new companies moving to the area, and a growing industrial workforce. As cruise season kicks off at the Flynn Cruise Terminal, I am reminded of how incredibly proud I am to have had the honor of working with Ambassador Flynn and, more importantly, calling him my friend,” said Congressman Stephen F. Lynch (D-Boston).

“When I heard about the idea of naming the Cruiseport for Mayor Flynn, I thought it was so fitting. Here we have a man who not only served our city as Mayor and informal ambassador to Boston, who later served as an Ambassador for our nation,” said House Speaker Robert A. DeLeo. “Now when tourists and travellers from all over the world come to Boston, they will immediately learn about an official who did so much to shape it.”

“The Flynn Cruiseport is more than just a stop or a starting point for a cruise – it is an economic engine that provides significant employment opportunities for the people of South Boston and beyond and on behalf of the people in the district, I’m pleased to see it continue to grow and thrive under its auspicious new name,” said Senator Linda Dorcena Forry.

“Ambassador Flynn has dedicated his life to the people and resources of South Boston and Massport is proud to play a role in ensuring his legacy is remembered for generations to come,” said Massport CEO Thomas P. Glynn. “The Flynn Cruiseport Boston at The Black Falcon Terminal attracts hundreds of thousands of visitors every year while greatly contributing to our local economy and we are looking forward to all the 2017 season has to bring.”
Meaning of Mother’s Day

Those days were golden when you wouldn’t sleep without your mother’s lullabies. You preferred her company in all the activities you did more than anyone else’s and your life revolved around her.

All these changed when you became independent and self-sufficient and Mother’s Day became just a formal event when you presented the wonderful women in your life with a few flowers and gifts. We live in a world where we tend to forget the value of motherhood. It is time you realize that this day is more special than bestowing her with a few materialistic gifts.

So, forget an attractive gift, spend some time or give some thought to your mother and pamper her as she did to you when you were a little kid. There is no other present which is as beautiful as your presence to your mother. Together with your beloved mom, you can cherish the memories of those days when you started your journey together as a mother and a daughter.

To realize the actual essence of Mother’s Day, it is essential to understand your mother. She is the person who carried you in her womb for nine months and introduced you to the greatest gift of God on earth – the life. She made you realize the real value of life by acting as a guiding force and a guardian angel whenever you were left helpless before the thorny path called life.

For a person, everyday must be a Mother’s Day. Mother’s Day must be celebrated in such a way that the intensity of the emotions and feelings should be in her mind all through her life. It must also be seen as a day to remember and shower prayers on that special person, without whom we would not have been what we are at present. It’s a day when we should recognize her efforts in shaping our life and personality.

It is her unconditional and unadulterated love, which made us mentally prepared to face the harsh realities of life. So, pause for a moment, remember that special person who made you whom you are today. Your mom will proud of you in sharing your precious time with her.
### Recent South Boston Real Estate Sales

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**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**
**SUFFOLK. ss.**
**DOCKET NUMBER: 16P0614**

To any and all Interested parties in the matter of: Adele Catherine Razwad, of South Boston in said County of Suffolk

A Petition to Fix and Determine Compensation for Expenses, with regard to services rendered has been presented to the Probate and Family Court of Suffolk County in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts by Julianna Bruce, Esq. of 9 Greenough Avenue, Boston, MA 02130. Petitioner prays the Court will issue a decree to fix and determine compensation, for expenses incurred relative to this case and any other relief as this Honorable Court may deem just and proper, for the reasons more explained in the Petition on file in the Probate and Family Court of Suffolk County in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

If you desire to object thereto you or your attorney should file a written appearance said Court at Boston before ten o’clock in the forenoon on the 2nd day of June 2017, the return day of this citation.

WITNESS, Joan P Armstrong, Esquire, First Justice of said Court, this 3rd day of May, 2017

Terri Klug Cafazzo, Register
May 11, 2017

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**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**
**SUFFOLK. ss.**
**DOCKET NUMBER: 16P1272/16P1273**

To any and all Interested parties in the matter of: Boston in the County of Suffolk, in the matter of: Frances Marie Razwad, of South Boston in said County of Suffolk.

A Petition to Fix and Determine Compensation for Expenses, with regard to services rendered has been presented to the Probate and Family Court of Suffolk County in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts by Julianna Bruce, Esq. of 9 Greenough Avenue, Boston, MA 02130. Petitioner prays the Court will issue a decree to fix and determine compensation, for expenses incurred relative to this case and any other relief as this Honorable Court may deem just and proper, for the reasons more explained in the Petition on file in the Probate and Family Court of Suffolk County in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

If you desire to object thereto you or your attorney should file a written appearance said Court at Boston before ten o’clock in the forenoon on the 2nd day of June 2017, the return day of this citation.

WITNESS, Joan P Armstrong, Esquire, First Justice of said Court, this 21st day April of 2017.

Terri Klug Cafazzo, Register
May 11, 2017
The Raymond L. Flynn Cruiseport Boston dedication on the South Boston Waterfront
South Boston Bus Service Improvements Announced

The MBTA, State Senator Linda Dorcena Forry, and State Representative Nick Collins are pleased to announce service changes and new investments that will lead to improved reliability and capacity for bus routes in the South Boston neighborhood.

As part of the MBTA’s newly approved budget for Fiscal Year 2018, $2.1 million will fund seven additional buses and ten operators for Routes 7 and 9. Scheduled to take effect in September, these actions will address overcrowding issues and improve both the frequency and reliability of service.

“Our South Boston customers rely heavily on buses, and we need to do everything we can to deliver the best service possible,” said MBTA Acting General Manager Brian Shortsleeve. “I want to thank Senator Forry and Representative Collins for their strong advocacy on behalf of their constituents, and working closely with us to find solutions.”

This investment is in addition to operational changes implemented in September 2016:

- Dropped trips on AM peak inbound Routes 7 and 9 were significantly reduced by adding $210,000 a year for additional scheduled route trips.
- A fare validation pilot program permitted riders to pay their fare prior to boarding and allowed all-door boarding. Dwell time was decreased by 28 percent.

In addition to the Route 7 and Route 9 investments, the City Point Bus Terminal now has a Short-Term Goal to retrofit the City Point MBTA bus layover facility to allow for passenger pick up/ drop off, with amenities (benches and shelters). A mid- to long-range goal of accommodating future bus service enhancements and improvements, such as the additional bus service, is planned for September 2017.

“We have been advocating for additional resources to these South Boston bus routes, and thank the MBTA for the investment,” said Senator Linda Dorcena Forry. “It’s exciting to see the plan move forward with funds helping to ensure South Boston residents have a more reliable mode of transportation.”

“I am very pleased to see the MBTA respond to our community’s concerns about bus overcrowding with these very important investments,” said Representative Collins. “These dollars will help alleviate the overcrowding, providing a frequent, reliable, and more comfortable service to those who rely on it.”

The MBTA first began meeting with Senator Forry and Representative Collins nearly a year and a half ago. MBTA analysis has showed that ridership has increased by as much as 84 percent on Routes 7 and 9 since the early 2000s.

May is for Moms Toiletry Drive

Mass Bay Credit Union is holding a Toiletry Drive to benefit Rosie’s Place, a local women’s shelter. The charitable drive, which lasts through the end of May, will help benefit those women and moms in need.

“In South Boston, we have a long tradition of helping each other through tough times,” says John Thomas, Mass Bay CEO. “The work they do for women at Rosie’s is so important. As a long-standing member of this great community, we are always eager to do what we can to help out.”

Drop off boxes will be located at their South Boston headquarters at 147 West 4th Street, in addition to their branches in Everett, Quincy and the Seaport. Bath towels, shampoo, conditioner, lotion, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, brushes/combs, chapstick are being accepted. Both full and travel size are appreciated. Last day for donations is May 31st.

Branches with Drop-Off Boxes: South Boston Headquarters 147 West 4th Street South Boston, MA 02127

John Ciccone continued from page 3

families and children go to spend their free time.

So, what do we do about it? First, reporting incidents like the ones mentioned above to the police and working in cooperation with law enforcement is a must if we are going to clean this up. And in an age when everyone is carrying a cell phone, don’t hesitate to make that call to the cops if you are at the park and see these kinds of activities going on. And not after the fact, when you get home. If you are witnessing it, call it in right away. As residents of this town, it’s the obligation of all of us to do whatever it requires to take back our streets and parks and make them safe and problem free for the people who use them, especially the kids.

It’s never enjoyable to have to write this type of column. Reporting on playful puppies, chirping birds and all things sugar and spice would be preferable. But if problems aren’t spoken about and then dealt with, the odds are they won’t get better by themselves, only worse. And I don’t mean to imply in any way, shape or form that these problems aren’t also the case in places other than South Boston. Unfortunately, it’s going on almost everywhere else. But we need to take care of our own back yard. This includes long-time residents and newcomers. When everyone works together, it’s amazing how fast things can and will improve.
Art Auction A Great Success

On May 3, the South Boston Arts Association hosted their first annual Art Auction to honor the artists of South Boston. The auction was held at the Supper Club of Capo Restaurant. The auction was attended by over 100 residents of all ages. Hogan’s Goat Band, Bobby Dunlap, Kathi Taylor, and Skip Toomey provided pop Irish and rock music to the crowd. Capo’s provided pizzas, meatballs, and cheese plates to the attendees. Dan McCole, President of the Association, and Greg Bialecki, Redgate Real Estate offered an update on the Arts and Industry concept for the development at the Edison Power Plant. A great time was had by all.

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LAST THREE DAYS TO REGISTER FOR FALL SOCCER SEASON

The last three days of Soccer Registration for the 2017 South Boston Youth Soccer Fall season will be held on May 11, 12, 13 at the Curley Recreation Center on Day Boulevard in the senior’s card room near the M street entrance from 6-8 PM Thursday the 11th and Friday the 12th and on Saturday the 13th from 9 AM TO 12 noon.

This will be the “ONLY” registration dates. Please pass the word to all your friends so that they don’t miss out on this year’s fun Soccer season. A copy of birth certificate for all new players and a $30.00 fee is required at sign up for the program. Players from age 3 to 12 can register.

We need coaches and referees this season so please come on down and sign up. There is no fee for coaches and referees. We are looking for sponsors for the teams Info -617-269-7930. Any players who don’t sign up now will be put on waiting list and not be guaranteed a space on a team. So please sign up NOW.

ED FLYNN BECOMES FIRST CANDIDATE TO QUALIFY FOR BALLOT

City Council candidate Edward M. Flynn was the first of any candidate in the city’s upcoming elections to be certified for the ballot. Just four hours after pulling nomination papers, Flynn became the first candidate for any office in all of Boston to submit the required signatures.

“I’m running for Boston City Council, because I want to be an independent voice for all residents of South Boston, the South End, and Chinatown – advocating for investments in our schools, working to make our streets safer and more livable, standing up for our seniors and veterans, and ensuring that all residents of the district have access to top-notch constituent services. I’m proud of the strong grassroots campaign we have built in every community, and I’m proud that we were the first campaign to qualify for the ballot,” said Flynn.

In recent weeks, Flynn has been endorsed by State Representative Nick Collins, At-Large City Councilor Michael Flaherty, Supreme Judicial Court Clerk Maura Doyle and Suffolk Clerk Michael Donovan. A lifelong resident of South Boston and 25-year veteran of the United States Navy, he has built a strong coalition of supporters across the entire district, including the South End, Chinatown, Bay Village and South Boston.

About Ed Flynn

Ed Flynn is a lifelong resident of South Boston, where he has been deeply involved as a youth sports coach, veteran’s advocate, and community activist. In addition to being an active Boston Public Schools parent at the Josiah Quincy School in Chinatown, Ed is a member of the Cityside Neighborhood Association, South Boston Citizen’s Association, Ward 7 Democratic Committee, and VFW Fitzgerald Post.

Ed served on active duty in the Persian Gulf on two deployments and overseas in the Navy Reserves, helping to coordinate disaster relief in Haiti. Ed and his wife, Kristen, are raising their children, Caroline and Stephen, in South Boston.
**DANNY PICARD:** You were in Las Vegas over the weekend for Canelo Alvarez vs Julio Cesar Chavez Jr. Canelo just gave him a beating. I know it was a decision. Canelo won by unanimous decision. But after the fight came the big story. They made the announcement of Gennady Golovkin vs Canelo Alvarez on Sept.16. This is the fight that we’ve all been begging for. We’ve been begging for this fight. What took so long?

**CHRIS MANNIX:** The first reason is that Golden Boy -- Canelo’s promoter -- didn’t believe that Canelo was ready for that type of fight. And given what Golovkin had done to previous opponents over the last few years, not just beating them, but laying waste to them, just hammering them into oblivion, that was a big reason for this. They wanted to take their time. They wanted to build Canelo up a little bit more. Canelo Alvarez doesn’t just represent a majority of Golden Boy’s income, it’s virtually all of their income. They don’t make money off pretty much anybody else but Canelo Alvarez. So, the risk of putting him in there with Golovkin at that time, it didn’t outweigh the reward for them. Now, they recognize now, that after saying for the last year-plus that September of 2017 was when it would happen, they had to make it happen. And I talked to Golovkin’s promoter about this, the fact that the Jacobs fight that Golovkin just fought, the fact that it didn’t end with Jacobs flat on his back and looking up at the ceiling, that gave them a little bit more confidence that Canelo can go into this fight and even if he loses, he won’t get embarrassed or his career won’t be over after the fact. If Golovkin was getting paid in Golden Boy stock, it wouldn’t surprise me. He gave in everything to make this deal happen. he is the unified middleweight champion, the best middleweight in the world, and he is the B-side in every possible way during this promotion. So he did everything humanly possible to make it happen, and Golden Boy believed that now was the time that Canelo was ready for it.

**DP:** So they see that Jacobs took Golovkin the distance, and they see their opportunity. But now I ask, did everybody wait too long to get this going? I guess my main question is, does Golovkin still have everything he had a year-and-a-half ago? Is he the same fighter after going the distance or do you see a different guy?

**CM:** I don’t think he’s the exact same fighter we saw two years ago. I think he’s probably 90 percent of that fighter though. And part of the reason he’s not scoring these devastating knockouts, or he didn’t against Jacobs, is the same reason that guys early in their career score knockouts and later in their career they don’t: the competition gets better. Jacobs was the best fighter that Golovkin went against. I don’t think that Golovkin is any worse. And I think if Canelo stands there and tries to trade punches with him, he is going to wind up flat on his back.

**DP:** You have an early pick?

**CM:** I’ve got Golovkin.

**DP:** Is Golovkin the best pound-for-pound fighter in the world, in your eyes?

**CM:** Well, it’s him and it’s Andre Ward, probably neck and neck, now that Chocolatito lost.

**DP:** What about Kovalev? And did you think Kovalev really should have lost that decision to Ward? Because I had Kovalev winning.

**CM:** I had Kovalev winning, but I don’t think it was a robbery. Robberies are the 119-109 score that should have gone the other way. That’s a robbery. Winning by a couple of points, where Ward is masterful at stealing rounds, I don’t think that’s a robbery. I’m glad the rematch is happening. I favor Kovalev in the rematch. I think he’s being disrespected as like this dumb Russian that can’t adjust in the ring, where as Andre Ward is this masterful American Olympian. I think Kovalev can adjust too, but I think it’s a toss-up fight.

**DP:** Ok, so, look, we aren’t working for Golden Boy promotions, but I think it’s fair to say that we can tell the audience that might not pay attention to boxing everyday, we can tell them that Golovkin vs Canelo is a much bigger and better fight than the potential Mayweather vs McGregor fight.

**CM:** If you’re going to pay money for a fight, it’s Golovkin/Canelo. Calling it “bombs away” is kind of goofy. I mean, the whole early promotion has been kind of goofy with Golovkin’s Undertaker-style entrance last weekend. That being said, it’s impossible to look at the two styles of Canelo and Golovkin and think it’s going to be anything but an all-out brawl.

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