South Boston Development Continues At A Dizzying Pace

There’s a major $550 million hotel development coming to South Boston waterfront. Between that and news that developers are transforming the Boston Edison power plant site into almost 1600 residential units across three buildings 20 stories high, the building boom is advancing at a dizzying pace.

State and local officials on Monday unveiled plans for the development of a massive hotel in the Seaport District. The Omni hotel will be built at the...
EDITORIAL

Honoring the Memory of Police Who Gave All

This past Monday was a special day indeed. On the steps of the US Capitol Building in Washington DC, thousands gathered to commemorate the 36th Annual National Peace Officers’ Memorial Service. This event is specifically organized to remember and to honor all of the American members of law enforcement who have lost their lives in the line of duty. Last year alone, 320 police officers from departments all over our country were killed doing their jobs of protecting citizens from crime and other dangers and it is right that they never be forgotten for it.

The men and women in uniform, who are dedicated to protecting and serving the public so that the civilian population can live their lives and raise their families in safety and security, are truly a special breed. They understand the dangers and what is required of them and know full well that every time they leave for work, there is a chance they may not return home at the end of their shifts to be with their own loved ones. They know this and yet they do it just the same, because it’s their duty and the life they have chosen. As he finished addressing the thousands of law officers and their family members on Monday, the President of the United States closed with these words: “America stands strong with our men and women in blue. Believe me, we stand strong together.”

Those words are as important now as they have ever been. Our police are the ‘thin blue line’ that has the backs of all Americans. As Americans, we should show them support in return and let them know that we have their backs as well. May God bless them and keep them all safe.

L.T.E. Letter to the Editor

TO THE EDITOR,

News that the neighborhood’s outcry has led to developers changing course. Plans to tear down a house at 202 M Street and replace it with five-units of luxury condos. Instead the new plan will keep the existing house and add a new single family home next to it. This is a victory for neighborhood action. This only happened from the uproar in the surrounding neighborhood.

Whether or not this will receive approval from Southie residents will be another question to be resolved hopefully sooner than later. All of Boston’s neighborhoods have seemingly become prime real estate but for whom? If you are priced out, is it really prime real estate for you any longer. What is happening in South Boston is also happening where I live in East Boston, Charlestown, Roslindale, Dorchester or anywhere else.

The City of Boston must play a strong role in protecting everyone. It is difficult to figure out what “affordability” really means. What the new stronger Boston needs is good housing for all. However, we saw nearly 60 years ago when I was a little kid when the old West End was torn down and turned into a high-rise island of wealth. Hopefully, Boston leaders today have learned from yesterday’s mistakes but cities need all kinds of people, living together, learning from each other and accepting each other as good neighbors. Pushing folks of limited means out is never a good answer. City Hall leaders need to see the whole picture and with a long-term view.

- Sal Giarratani
The Information Center

Harvard vs Liberty Universities: Quite the Contrast

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY
John Ciccone

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

I
n the news this week, as it is every year at this time, are the graduation ceremonies at the nation’s colleges. What doesn’t apply this year to these events is the old saying “If you’ve seen one, you’ve seen them all.” Two schools in particular that show a distinct contrast are Harvard and Liberty University.

While not a surprise to anyone at this address but shocking to many other Americans was, the news reported last week that African American students at Harvard University planned to hold a separate graduation ceremony where only black students would be allowed. And of course, this news had the support and the encouragement of some of the professors at the school. It also seemed to be perfectly fine with the university’s administration, which has no plans to prevent it, as with the news media. It was Harvard, as we remember over the years, that so often placed itself among those perched on high horses of indignation, as they chastised Middle America and those in Boston’s ethnic neighborhoods for being what they considered racist and throw backs to the days of segregation. And yet here they are at Harvard, preparing for a ‘separate but equal’ student graduation. If this isn’t segregation, who can be sure what it is?

We’ve seen other mostly liberal colleges this year cancel invited commencement speakers, because some of the ‘snowflake’ students, again urged on by radical professors, don’t approve of the views of those speakers even though other graduates would like to hear what they have to say. When those speakers are allowed to appear, they are often greeted with catcalls, obscenities, threats and total disrespect, as they try to give their address. Freedom of speech is in danger on many campuses and this too, seems to be just fine with college officials and the press.

At Virginia’s Liberty University, just the opposite was the case last week as thousands of graduates cheered their invited guest, President Trump. He congratulated them on their hard work which is what it took to get through their 4 years and give them encouragement for their future pursuits in the ‘real world’. Liberty is considered one of America’s finest Institutions of higher education. Students are not pampered. There are no ‘safe spaces’ to run to, if feelings are hurt and ‘micro aggressions’ are not acknowledged. In other words, unlike so many other campuses, it hasn’t been turned into a leftist indoctrination base or a daycare center for supposed adults. Nary a snow flake can be found at Liberty University. There were probably some students at the graduation ceremony, who perhaps don’t approve of this president. Everyone is entitled to their own views, but to their credit, not one student was rude enough or ignorant enough to try to disrupt and ruin what was a beautiful graduation for everyone else. It’s encouraging to see that not every American campus has become a circus.

In other news, recently US Attorney General Jeff Sessions has put the violent gang known as MS-13 on notice that he is coming after them. This gang, which contains thousands of illegal alien criminals, is responsible for countless murders and for helping flood our country with deadly drugs. Sessions said his goal is to round them up, arrest and deport them and to put them out of business once and for all. Predictably, the open borders crowd, including some politicians and of course the news media jumped on Sessions’ statements saying he was being racist and said he was profiling. They went into meltdown. Sessions is not deterred and said he intends to carry out his stated actions. But it does expose the ideology of so many on the left, who demand that even vicious killers and the worst of the worst criminals not be removed from our country.

And finally, this week, just a comment on late night TV. Personally, I’ve never been interested in watching the ‘comedians’ on their evening shows. But like many of our readers, I’m convinced that most of those on the air now are definitely not funny. People like Stephen Colbert, Bill Maher and the other current hosts are so filed with hate, they aren’t able to be funny. The other night I was watching old reruns of that show when Johnny Carson was hosting. He made jokes about the presidents and other politicians, as well as other celebrities and issues but he did it in classy, respectful and yes, very funny ways. Jay Leno followed in Carson’s

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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.

State House battle looms over home-rental taxes

As the Massachusetts Taxpayers Association predicted, the Senate Ways and Means Committee yesterday released a $40.3 billion state budget yesterday that closely hews to House and Baker administration proposals on overall spending and tax increases, including the inclusion of a new employer health-care assessment tax opposed by many in the business community.

But the Senate budget did differ from the separate House and administration proposals in one key, sensitive area: A tax on short-term home rentals, via Airbnb and other rental companies. The Globe’s Curt Woodward notes the sometimes stark differences in the Senate, House and administration versions of the tax, differences that could lead to tough negotiation in the final days of the legislative session. The Herald’s Matt Stout reports how the various proposals are starting to unnerv the Massachusetts Association of Realtors, which is warning it could force homeowners who occasionally rent their homes to “go underground.”

 Quickly, in other Senate budget news: CommonWealth’s Bruce Mohl reports on how the Senate budget would empty the Horse Race Development Fund to help fund the overall state budget; the AP’s Bob Salsberg at WBUR reports how the Senate budget doesn’t make any adjustments in highly question-able revenue estimates for next year; and SHNS’s Katie Laman at CommonWealth reports on how the entire Senate budget is built on shaky revenue forecasts. The House and Baker budget proposals are also built on shaky revenue forecasts, for that matter.

Another buyer pulls out of deal to acquire Globe property

The second time wasn’t the charm. The BBJ’s Catherine Carlock reports that Center Court Properties’ deal to buy the Globe’s 16.5-acre site on Morrissey Boulevard has fallen through, marking the second time a potential buyer has pulled out of an agreement to acquire the property. The Globe’s Jon Chesto reports the newspaper is still moving ahead with plans to move its headquarters to downtown Boston next month. We hate to speculate, but we’ll speculate anyway: Is there something wrong with the property, environmentally or is it just the area in general?

‘Why Allston/Brighton is the next Kendall Square’

Writing at BostInno, Mike Jezienicki and Ryan Hurd think the next Kendall Square, i.e. a major tech hotspot, will be in Allston/Brighton. Why? One word: Harvard. They note, among other things, that Harvard has plans to develop over 25 million square feet over the next several decades, compared to the 14.7 million square feet of office and lab space now in Kendall Square.

Shortsleeve dumps Dem tag in bid for Senate seat

Former TV newscaster Joe Shortsleeve says he will run for the state Senate as an independent, or unenrolled candidate, rather than as a Democrat, giving him a much clearer path to appear on the final ballot, Jim Hand of the Sun-Chronicle reports. Shortsleeve and others are running to replace former Sen. James Timilty, who resigned to become Norfolk County Treasurer.

Bad news for Goldberg on the online lottery front

Treasurer Deb Goldberg, who is pushing Beacon Hill lawmakers to approve online lottery games, may be running out of luck on the issue. From the Globe’s Sean Murphy: “Nearly 70 percent of Massachusetts voters do not support legislation that would allow the state lottery to sell tickets online, a new survey has found. Just 5 percent said they support expanding the lottery to include Internet games ‘very’ strongly, the survey found, while 7 percent said they support the proposal ‘somewhat’ strongly.”

Celtics break the curse

We interrupt this political newsletter to bring you this special announcement: The Boston Celtics have broken their NBA Lottery Curse by winning the right to the No. 1 pick in this year’s NBA draft, ESPN reports. Happy days are already here for the Celtics, who are now making a deep run in the NBA playoffs. But even happier days lie ahead if Danny Ainge makes the right move with the pick. NESN’s Cameron McDonough is already telling Danny what to do. More from the Boston Globe and the Boston Herald.

How can the state and city improve the business climate here?

The Globe’s Shirley Leung heaps praise on MassPort for including a diversity requirement in the development plans for the new Omni hotel complex in South Boston, saying it’s a step in the right direction in making Boston a more welcoming city for minority- and female-owned businesses. Meanwhile, former state economic czar Greg Bialecki, also writing at the Globe, says the state needs to sharpen its message that Massachusetts’ long-term economic prospects are bright and getting brighter.

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MassPort, OMNI Hotels And Elected Leaders Tout Headquarters Hotel

Omni Hotels and Resorts officials got a big Boston welcome from elected officials and community members and kicked off a project that is expected to bring thousands of jobs and a unique commitment to diversity and inclusion. A new sign now marks the future site of the Omni Boston Hotel, a 1,000-plus room hotel on Summer Street in South Boston’s Waterfront District.

Governor Charlie Baker, Lieutenant Governor Karyn Polito, Mayor Martin J. Walsh, Massport, the owner of Omni Hotels & Resorts, New Boston Hospitality Group, elected officials and community representatives gathered to celebrate the project and unveil the new sign. Omni, along with their partners at New Boston Hospitality, are developing the fourth largest hotel in Boston in a prime location to serve the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center (BCEC) and the growing number of major companies located in the area.

“This project is just one testament to Massachusetts’ leadership and competitiveness in the global innovation economy and tourism, attracting businesses and visitors from around the world,” said Governor Charlie Baker. “As state, community and private partners work collaboratively to advance this development, we look forward to the job opportunities and benefits it will deliver to the neighborhood, Commonwealth and region.”

This project marks yet another major investment in South Boston’s Waterfront District; last week General Electric celebrated the groundbreaking of its new world headquarters just a few blocks away. The impact on the local economy will also include adding critical hotel capacity for the world-renowned BCEC, which will be connected via a pedestrian walkway to the new hotel. In addition, a number of local non-profit organizations will receive a percentage of profits generated by the hotel.

“I’m excited to welcome this multi-faceted, new addition to our ever growing Seaport skyline,” said Mayor Walsh. “I applaud the efforts being made by Omni Hotels and Resorts to not only build great accommodations and spaces for visitors, but also support the neighborhood and the people of Boston by creating permanent jobs, giving back to local organizations and programs, and supporting minority-owned and women-owned businesses.”

The proposed hotel design will feature a variety of culinary options, world-class retail and amenities, including a luxury spa, elevated pool deck and fitness center. It will also offer more than 100,000 square-feet of flexible meeting and event space, inclusive of a 25,000 square-foot ballroom, as well as an event terrace.

“Our goal is to help continue the transformation of South Boston’s Waterfront District as there has already been significant development over the last several years,” said Jim Caldwell, CEO of Omni Hotels & Resorts. “We have assembled a top flight team across the spectrum of project disciplines. Our focus from the start has been to create a new model of unprecedented representation by minority and women owned businesses, which will serve to infuse the Boston economy with new diversity and have a rippling impact across the city,” said Jonathan Davis, CEO of The Davis Companies.

“Massport feels a deep commitment to the people of Boston and our surrounding communities to deliver, not only world-class transportation services, but to best utilize our assets to serve the city and state,” said Massport CEO Thomas P. Glynn.

“This partnership with Omni Hotels & Resorts will deliver much needed accommodation in the Waterfront District, allowing Boston to continue to gain prominence in the convention industry and better accommodate the growing number of visitors coming to do business in the city.”
Acting MassDOT Highway Administrator Is Named

Transportation Secretary and CEO Stephanie Pollack has announced the appointment of Jonathan Gulliver, MassDOT Highway District 3 Director, as Acting Highway Administrator on a temporary basis. Gulliver will serve in this role until Administrator Thomas J. Tinlin’s planned return to work on Monday, July 10.

“Tom and I consulted closely on this decision and we both agree that this appointment is in the best interest of his health and of MassDOT,” said Secretary Pollack. “The naming of an Acting Administrator is best for the organization at this time as it will allow Tom the time to continue to recuperate from a medical issue and will allow for necessary high-level oversight on a daily basis of many important Highway Division projects and continued collaboration with partners on large scale events such as Sail Boston and Fourth of July activities.”

Administrator Tinlin says he has been grateful at all the kind words since his health challenge became known, “I want to thank everyone for their outpouring of support. I am on the road to full recovery and am excited to rejoin the MassDOT team later this summer. During this recovery process, and in consultation with Secretary Pollack, I have asked Jon Gulliver to take over as Acting Administrator because I have full confidence in Jonathan in this role, and have spoken to him personally about my expectations. There is no doubt in my mind that Jonathan will succeed.”

Since joining MassDOT in 2009, Gulliver has held the position of Highway District 3 Director, overseeing the Highway Division’s Central Massachusetts operations. Gulliver was a critical part of the AET management team that planned and executed the successful rollout of All Electronic Tolling on I-90. As Acting Administrator, Gulliver will work closely with the MassDOT Highway Division senior management team, including Chief Engineer Patty Leavenworth, Chief of Operations Lenny Walsh and Deputy Administrator/Director of Project Controls Isidoro Perez, Highway Chief of Staff Jared Kadich and the other five District Highway Directors.

Congressman Stephen Lynch and former State Senator Jack Hart attend Capitol Hill reception sponsored by The New England Council

Congressman Stephen Lynch and former State Senator Jack Hart attended a Capitol Hill reception sponsored by The New England Council. Over 250 New Englanders attended two days of briefings and meetings with members of the New England Delegation and members of the Administration.

South Boston Development...

The Omni is working with several partners on the project, including a group of minority investors. Additionally, six local nonprofit organizations will receive a portion of the hotel’s profits. The organizations include the Edgerley Family Learning Program and the Build-Pathways New Boston Hospitality. Mayor Marty Walsh said, “diversity and inclusion” were built into the development, and the project will have a broader impact for the city. “This project certainly is a vision of economic growth,” Walsh said. “Even though the project is on the South Boston waterfront, it’s going to reach out to every neighborhood.”

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ED FLYNN EARN TOP LABOR SUPPORT

Ten Unions Back Flynn for District 2 Council Seat

District Two City Council Candidate Edward M. Flynn has earned endorsements from 10 labor unions in the district – and counting – as officials from the locals cited Flynn’s record of supporting workers’ rights and working families.

“Ed Flynn is dedicated to making lives better for working families in Boston and ensuring working men and women have access to fair wages and good jobs,” said Craig A. Pinkham, president of the Utility Workers Union of America, Local 369. “He’s also dedicated to making sure that the children of working parents can go to high quality schools in the city. We’re proud to endorse Ed as our next Boston City Councilor.”

“We recognize and appreciate that you are truly a dedicated worker for peace, social justice and equality for working men and women,” added Charles Raso, president of the Bricklayers and Allied Craftsmen Local 3.

Flynn, a state probation officer and member of the National Association of Government Employees, has a long history of supporting organized labor, including working for five years in the United States Department of Labor under President Clinton. In that capacity, Flynn fought for improved work conditions, access to affordable health care and to increase the federal minimum wage.

He has received endorsements from the following unions:
- Iron Workers Local 7
- International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 2222
- International Union of Operational Engineers Local 4
- Sheet Metal Workers Local 17
- Utility Workers Union of America Local 369
- Bricklayers and Allied Craftsmen Local 3
- Teamsters Local 25
- Teamsters Local 122
- National Association of Government Employees (NAGE) Local 5000
- Boston Carmen’s Union Local 589

“I’m proud to have received such strong support from the labor community,” Flynn said. “Boston is a city that was built by union workers and the need for employee protection is as crucial now as it has ever been. Working families’ incomes are being stretched more and more every day and as city councilor, I’ll work hard to make sure workers are compensated fairly and can share in the success of our city.”

These labor endorsements follow a series of top elected officials announcing their public support for Flynn’s campaign, including Councillor Michael Flaherty, state Rep. Nick Collins, SJC Clerk Maura Doyle and Suffolk Superior Court Clerk Michael Donovan.

The Fort Point Arts Community (FPAC) Gallery seeks proposals in all media (painting, sculpture, photography, multimedia, other) for five shows for the 2017-18 season. Each show must include at least two exhibiting artists and preferably more. Proposals are invited from exhibiting artists and from curators collaborating with exhibiting artists.

The juror for the season is Mary M. Tinti, an independent curator and art historian specializing in contemporary New England art and public art. Prior to her most recent position as curator of the Fitchburg Art Museum, Tinti was a Koch Curatorial Fellow at deCordova Sculpture Park and Museum, the first-ever Public Art Fellow at the New England Foundation for the Arts, and the Deputy Artistic Director of WaterFire Providence. Tinti received her B.A. from Providence College and her Ph.D. from Rutgers University.

The Fort Point Arts Community, Inc.

The Fort Point Arts Community builds cultural vibrancy in Boston by cultivating an empowered community of artists, organizations, and supporters. FPAC promotes the work of our artists to a broad and diverse audience, advocates for art opportunities, develops permanent, affordable live-work studio space and ensures that art is an essential part of the life of a creative city.

The Fort Point Arts Community Gallery

CALL FOR EXHIBITION PROPOSALS

2017/2018 Season
Proposals are due by 5:00 p.m., Friday, June 16, 2017
Family was the code word last week at the United States Coast Guard Chiefs Call To Indocitration (CCTI) ceremony held at the impressive Peabody Essex Museum in Salem MA. Family from back home and family among the Coasties, as Coast Guard Men and Women call themselves, was the dual theme.

The Consolidated Boston Chiefs’ Mess hosted the tradition of the CCTI whereby those servicemen, who after reaching the rank of E7, volunteer and agree to be put through a battery of mental, psychological, emotional and academic testing that affirms their leadership skills to become fully vetted Chief Petty Officers in their respective ratings. The longevity of the CCTI and the resulting confidence that the USCG and fellow officers have in those who’ve achieved this career milestone speaks volumes about this branch of the service.

Chief Boatswain’s mate Colin Smith, of South Boston, celebrated along with his wife Casey Lynne and his family, several of whom are either active duty or retired Coast Guard. CPO Smith has now been assigned to the cutter Spencer berthed in Boston, a vessel he was deployed to as his first sea duty assignment. He is currently attending navigation training in Portsmouth Virginia to familiarize himself with all of the new electronics and ship accessories that he will be responsible for.

His is truly a Coast Guard Family. His Dad, is a much-admired retired Senior CPO who now is an ROTC instructor at New London High School. He is one of only two USCG instructors in the ROTC system. His Aunt, Madonna Smith, was a pioneer in advancing the role of women in the Guard, having retired as a Chief Petty Officer herself. Joining CPO Smith as his guests were his next door neighbors Mary and Jim Collins, who is himself a Coastie.

Smith joined the Coast Guard in 2000 and has had shore side and sea duty at several venues including the Seneca in Boston, Tiger Shark in Newport, Pendant in Boston, as well as shore side duty in Chatham MA, Emerald Isle NC and Lakeworth Inland in FL. He has had the distinction, as a volunteer, to take care of the restored the Search and Rescue Lifeboat 36500, that was at the center of history, as documented in the acclaimed 2016 movie, The Finest Hours, featuring the now famous Coastie Bernie Weber.

Thank you and your wife Casey Lynne for your achievements and service to our country. Semper Paratus, Colin Smith.
### Recent South Boston Real Estate Sales

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### INTERIM PLANNING OVERLAY DISTRICT (IPOD)

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 31**
6:00 PM - 7:30 PM
Tyner Community Center Cafeteria
South Boston, MA 02127

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**
The Boston Planning & Development Agency is proposing to institute an Interim Planning Overlay District (IPOD) within South Boston (Article 68). Please attend to comment and have questions answered.

**MAIL TO:**
MARK McGONAGLE
Boston Planning & Development Agency
One City Hall Square, 9th Floor
Boston, MA 02201
PHONE: 617.918.4283
EMAIL: mark.mcgonagle@boston.gov
3rd Annual South Boston Spring Stroll

Last Thursday evening the South Boston community came out strong to enjoy an evening of shopping, dining, music and art along East and West Broadway. Pedicabs were peddling up and down Broadway bringing neighbors to their favorite shops, salons, boutiques and restaurants, courtesy of Dedham Savings Bank. There were great bargains to be found making it a fun time for all! The Stroll was presented by South Boston NDC and South Boston Chamber of Commerce with over 30 businesses participating.
$50 Fine for Not Picking Up After Your Dog

Several callers and emai...s... over the last two weeks have asked if there was in fact a law or certain rules and regulations regarding owners of dogs who do not pick up after their pets. A call to the City of Boston’s Animal Control office provided the answers for a caller and South Boston Today was asked to share them with our readers.

Here they are:

Boston has a law on the books regarding ‘Dog Fouling’. Section 16 – 1.10A of the city code requires owners to remove and properly dispose of any and all ‘deposits’ left by their dogs. This includes sidewalks, streets, parks, curbs, neighbor’s yards and everywhere they are left. Properly disposed does not include a resident’s barrel or trash can.

The other question asked is what, if any, is the penalty or fine for not doing so. There is a $50 dollar fine for not following this rule and a citation issued as well. 

What prompted these questions and the inquiry to city hall? An increase in complaints by neighbors who are becoming upset with dog walkers who do not follow the rules on this issue either because they may not be aware of the Dog Fouling Law, or in some cases, do know and just refuse to abide by it. Some time ago, this was a major problem around town but in recent years, with virtually no free roaming dogs using the streets and residents who own dogs being very conscientious and picking up after their dogs, it was no longer a big issue.

But over the last six to twelve months, notice has been taken of a relatively small number of people not complying which has angered residents and prompted the complaints. Reports have come in of people, when confronted for not picking up after their dogs, becoming hostile and defensive and in some cases refusing to rectify the situation. In most cases however, when it is brought to the offending pet owner’s attention, they do pick up. Other cases have been reported of pet walkers ignoring the rule, if they think there is no one watching.

The important thing that officials at City Hall want to get across is this: Boston, like all cities, is a crowded place with a lot of foot traffic, just as many children at play and it is disrespectful and especially unsanitary to not pick up after one’s pet and residents agree. Citizens have every right to own dogs and walk them even in the city. But with pet ownership comes responsibility and one of those responsibilities is to clean up after your pet. That’s why the law has been put in place. It’s for the safety, health and benefit of all that consideration be shown by pet owners. It’s an obligation that comes with dog ownership that should be understood; especially when living in a city.

The City of Boston Animal Control office has provided a phone number for neighbors to call if you have a complaint regarding dog owners not picking up after their pets. The number is 617-635-5348 or 5349.

PARKS DEPARTMENT SUMMER GUIDE NOW ONLINE

Looking for some outdoor fun this summer in City of Boston parks? Simply go to the City of Boston website where you can view the Boston Parks and Recreation Department’s full schedule of free summer events under the Spotlight section at www.boston.gov/departments/parks-and-recreation#spotlight.

Concerts, movies, watercolor painting workshops, and a wide range of children’s activities - there’s something for everyone, all offered free of charge. The schedule includes the popular Artists in Residence Craft Workshops for ages 3 to 10 in parks citywide July 11 through August 18, the Boston Children’s Summer Festival at Franklin Park on August 22, Movie Nights in ten locations, and Splash Dance parties in Charlestown, East Boston, Jamaica Plain, Mattapan, and West Roxbury.

Musical offerings include the 45th annual Dorothy Curran Wednesday Night Concert Series sponsored by Bank of America kicking off July 12 with Strictly Sinatra on City Hall Plaza at 7 p.m., the ParkARTS Citywide Neighborhood Concerts, Summer Sundays in the Park at Jamaica Pond on July 30 and August 6, and the blazing hot Tito Puente Latin Music Series in the South End, East Boston, Mission Hill, and Jamaica Plain from July 6 through August 10.

For more information, please visit the Boston Parks Department website where you can view the full summer schedule and other Parks Department events and programs at www.boston.gov/departments/parks-and-recreation.

John Ciccone...continued from page 3

footsteps and was brilliant. But the likes of Stephen Colbert, Maher etc. are petty, nasty and so filled with hatred and venom that it just oozes from every syllable that they utter. They don’t even stop at attacking the politicians, they even go after their wives and children with degrading and disgusting insults. But just as bad as the TV Hosts themselves are, the handpicked people in their audiences who laugh and clap like trained seals at every ignorant thing the host says. I guess to some people, that’s entertainment. To each their own.
South Boston Resident Corey Dinopoulos Qualifies For City Council Ballot

The Corey Dinopoulos for City Council campaign announced that their candidate has officially qualified to be on the ballot for the September 26, 2017 Preliminary Municipal Election for Boston City Council, according to its campaign manager, Anna Glass. The signatures were collected by Dinopoulos and his volunteers beginning May 2 in all the neighborhoods of District 2: South Boston, Downtown, Bay Village, Chinatown, and the South End. “Collecting signatures was a fantastic experience,” says Dinopoulos. “People in District 2 are engaged and concerned citizens who care, like I do, about creating a better Boston. I spoke with hundreds of people who are equally focused on expanding opportunity to all Boston residents through improved access to transportation, housing, and education.” Corey Dinopoulos is a South Boston resident and community organizer, who over the past twelve years has worked to improve Boston through public initiatives, community events, and volunteer engagement. More information about his campaign, how to contact Dinopoulos, or attend his events can be found at www.coreyforboston.com.

Golf at the Tynan

Healey organizes fentanyl ‘strike force’

Armed with $1 million in federal money, Attorney General Maura Healey is launching a new task force to battle the spread of fentanyl, citing “incredibly haunting” statistics showing the rise of opioid-tied deaths linked to fentanyl, as Gintautas Dumcius reports at MassLive.

N.H., Maine now await word from Massachusetts on the fate of Daylight Saving Time

Fred Bever at WBUR has a good piece on how other New England states are proceeding with the once seemingly crazy idea of sticking to just one time during the year (i.e. no more “fall back” by an hour in the autumn). As previously reported, Maine is well along the way of approving the idea. But so is New Hampshire. Still, legislation in both states have a big caveat: They’ll make the change only if Massachusetts does so, Bever writes.

Riding with bigotry

Commuters are seeing a definite spike in bigoted, hate-filled messages scrawled on T benches, bus seats, subway signs and the like – and Kay Lazar and Nicole Dungca have the stats to prove it. And the swastikas and other offensive graffiti are showing up on the roadways too.
There is an Important meeting scheduled at Excel High School (formerly South Boston High School) on May 23rd at 5:30pm. Build BPS is coming out to listen to our concerns about our local South Boston Schools. Here is our chance to come together and voice what our community wants! We deserve a local High School. Please help us in supporting a ‘feeder school’ option, locally to Excel High School (formerly South Boston High School). This option could ensure consistency and sustain a sense of belonging for all of our students. Statistics show that students deserve to remain in an environment that they have grown in and are familiar with. Keeping our students together will affirm their success. Please help spread the word.

Members from the Mayor’s office, along with members from Superintendent’s Office will be there. Let’s rally together to make a huge difference in our local school choice! Please come out and show your support!

- Did you know Excel High School (formerly South Boston High School) has a pathway program to UMass Boston?
- The location of this High School is one of the best locations throughout our city! With access to Joe Moakley Park only a few blocks away.
- Did you know Excel High School (formerly South Boston High School) students were awarded $4 million in scholarships last year?
- Thank you and hope to see you there.
- Erin Lee

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CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION
Docket No. SU17P0884EA
Commonwealth Of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Estate of: Mary Theresa Flaherty
Date of Death: 02/08/2016
Suffolk Probate and Family Court
24 New Chardon Street,
Boston, MA 02114 (617) 788-8300
To all interested persons:
A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Tanya B Acosta of South Boston MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that:
Tanya B Acosta of South Boston MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in an unsupervised administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 06/15/2017. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)
A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. Joan P Armstrong
First Justice of this Court
May 04, 2017
Terri Klug Cafazzo, Register of Probate
May 18, 2017
It’s down to the final four in the NBA Playoffs. The Boston Celtics take on the Cleveland Cavaliers in the Eastern Conference Finals, while the Golden State Warriors take on the San Antonio Spurs in the Western Conference Finals.

Talk about predictable. No surprise here that the top-two seeds in each conference have advanced to the Conference Finals. It’s exactly what I predicted before the playoffs began. But I also predicted Golden State and Cleveland to advance to the NBA Finals, with Golden State winning the NBA Championship in six games.

Now that we’ve seen how the first two rounds of the playoffs have played out, are my picks any different? Let’s find out.

**EASTERN CONFERENCE FINALS:**

- (2) Cleveland Cavaliers over (1) Boston Celtics in Six

The Cavs enter this series having swept the Indiana Pacers in the first round and the Toronto Raptors in the second round. You don’t need me to do the math for you, but it’s worth repeating that Cleveland is 8-0 through the first two rounds, making it a heavy favorite over Boston in the Eastern Conference Finals.

If the Celtics have any advantage at all in this one, it’s in the form of home-court advantage. But that’s it. There’s a reason why the Cavs are the favorite. They have LeBron James. For that reason, nobody is going to give this Celtics team a chance, regardless of how impressive their Game 7 win over the Washington Wizards in the second round was.

Now, I’m not here to tell you that they’re going to shock the world. But I definitely think the Celtics have the ability to win two games in this series. I can see them splitting in Boston, and splitting in Cleveland, followed by LeBron putting together one of those legendary performances back in Boston for Game 5, and then ending the Celtics’ season in Game 6 back in Cleveland.

That’s giving the C’s a lot more credit than anyone else will give them in this series. But ultimately, the Cavaliers are just too good. I’ll be hoping that I’m wrong. But I’ll be shocked if I am.

**WESTERN CONFERENCE FINALS:**

- (1) Golden State Warriors over (2) San Antonio Spurs in Five

The offseason addition of Kevin Durant is the main reason that I picked the Warriors to win the whole damn thing. It’s a Super Team. And like the Cavaliers in the East, they swept both of their first-two playoff opponents in the Portland Trailblazers and then the Utah Jazz.

The Spurs are dealing with some injuries, but were still able to defeat the Memphis Grizzlies in the first round and then the Houston Rockets in the second round. And as much as I usually like the Spurs this time of year, there’s just no way they’ll be able to match up with Golden State. It’s just not going to happen.

In fact, I give the Celtics a better chance to shock the world against the Cavs than I do the Spurs against the Warriors. Neither is going to happen though, setting us up for the third straight year of a Golden State vs Cleveland NBA Finals.

**NBA FINALS:**

Golden State Warriors over Cleveland Cavaliers in Seven

-So, my original prediction was Golden State in six games. But seeing how good the Cavaliers looked through the first two rounds, I have to believe this NBA Finals will go the distance. And with that Game 7 in Golden State, I still look for the Warriors to be the last team standing.

This will be the third straight Finals between these two teams. It’s the rubber match, if you will. Golden State won the first, Cleveland won the second. And I’m looking for Durant to be the biggest difference maker this time around.

The funny part about it is, we very well could see the fourth installment of this NBA Finals matchup next year. And who knows, maybe they’ll meet again for a fifth straight time the year after that.

You can’t rule it out. Not with the way the NBA currently works. It’s a league where the stars dominate. And the most dominant stars are in Golden State and Cleveland. Unless that changes, there’s no telling when somebody will step up and knock either team off their throne.

Here in Boston, the Celtics are getting close. It won’t happen this year, but depending on what they do this offseason, perhaps they’ll make things a little more interesting in 2018.

For now though, Golden State and Cleveland are destined to meet again. And I’m still putting my money on the Warriors to win it all.

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