



Track 61 Project In Fort Point/Seaport Has Conditions Imposed

Track 61 is on some kind of track. The questions in the minds of the residents, who are directly affected by what happens there, are both how the MBTA construction process will affect the quality of their health and safety and the enjoyment of their homes; and what is the future of the rail, once the Red Line testing program is completed.

The Boston Conservation Commission has produced a list of

conditions that are to be imposed on the pre-construction and construction phases related to environmental aspects of the project. These aspects relate to dumping, disposal, dust containment, demolition, wetland resources, drainage, erosion control, sediment containment, storage of hazardous material, rodent control, flood control, equipment monitoring, fluid discharge, staging, snow management, on site management,



oil spill management and prevention and fuel tank storage security. There is a further stipulation that everything needs to be taken out and down when the testing is done. This oversight affirms the fact that the Track 61 project is moving forward.

Back in 2013, the project was under serious consideration and had been quietly placed on a fast track, because the state already owns

CONTINUED ON page 8

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Entering College Or Military Service This Fall?



Dear Neighbor,

Growing up as a young person in Boston where American democracy was born, I always treasured the right to vote. It is our civic duty and an incredible honor. That philosophy was instilled in me by my parents and grandparents. Even though my children are not of voting age, my wife and I often talk to them about the importance of voting. We explain to them that so many of our brave men and women have sacrificed a great deal to make this a fundamental right of our country.

As an 18-year old, I re-

member how excited I was to head off to college. I got the same feeling the day I enlisted in the U.S. Navy. Both experiences helped shape who I am today. For those leaving town later this month for college or military service, I commend you. Being both a veteran and college graduate, I can say that they will be experiences you will not forget. You make our community proud. Today, I ask that you fulfill your civic duty by voting in the fall's elections – on September 26 and on November 7.

If you are going to be

away and unable to vote in person, you can vote via absentee ballot starting now. I would be honored to earn your vote in this election for City Council – District 2. It will certainly decide the future of our neighborhood and district, and I need your help to win this election.

Please contact me at (617) 913-6969 or email info@ed-forboston.com if any member of your family needs an absentee ballot. I wish you the best in your next endeavor, and I appreciate your consideration and support.

Sincerely,

Edward M. Flynn



Letter to the Editor

Why I Support Ed Flynn

The upcoming race for City Council is incredibly important to South Boston as a community, to all neighborhoods in District 2, and to Boston as a whole. With so much at stake in this election, I know that Ed Flynn is the best candidate for the job.

I've known Ed through his dedicated community engagement over the years where I've seen him as a strong and independent leader. Through his experience as an active member of his local civic group, veteran, probation office, and father, Ed

understands the issues that impact families and seniors here every day. I know that Ed will be ready to use that experience on Day 1 of the job. We've all seen him stand up for the community on issues like public safety, parking, and development, and Ed has a proven record of getting things done.

I hope you will join me in supporting Ed Flynn for Boston City Council on September 26th. As City Councilor, he has the experience to deliver, and he will always work for us.

Kathy Lafferty
South Boston

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The Information Center



Leftist Trouble Makers Get a Pass Again. Why?

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY
John Ciccone

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

Main topic for today: Last week's Boston 'free speech' rally.

The media and public officials said that "Boston Stood Proud" last Saturday. That the thousands of demonstrators that descended on Boston stood against hate speech and bigotry. They said it was a peaceful rally with a few minor incidents but overall, it was well under control. But that's not completely true and those who watched video footage know it. Want to know how peaceful it was, ask any cop that was on duty in the area of the leftist mask wearing thugs that swarmed the Common and onto Boston's streets. But in addition to that, you can watch the video footage from dozens of sources that are all over social media. Peaceful and proud? Not all of it. Not by a long shot.

Police were assaulted with a variety of weapons and had to spend some of their time ducking bottles filled with urine being thrown at them. The verbal abuse police were subjected to shows that the members of Boston's Finest have the patience of Saints. One video clip showed an elderly woman standing quietly, simply holding an American flag having it ripped from her hands and being dragged by the so called Antifa crowd as she lay helpless. This was all over social media but the only news channel that would carry it was

FOX. 33 people were arrested for disorderly and assaulting police yet they try to convince us that 'it was a peaceful gathering of people standing up to hate'. There was as much hate on display in Boston, by some, not all, of the so called counter demonstrators as could be found anywhere. And this brings me to the following conclusion: I'm guessing, those in the press and perhaps some officials who continue to give violent radical leftist groups like Antifa a pass are either afraid of them or maybe some even support what they do.

The original group that applied for and were granted a permit for what was called a free speech rally were labeled Nazis, Klansmen and white supremacist days before they arrived and it was public officials who were labeling them. It was announced that they were not wanted in Boston with their messages of hate by officials who should have checked into who these people were first. Want to know who some of the speakers were? One was an African American amateur boxer from Dorchester who works hard in Boston's minority neighborhoods to try to keep kids away from drugs and free from crime. Another was a legal immigrant from India; now an American citizen who hopes one day to be a US Senator from Massachusetts. There was a Bernie Sanders campaign worker who

was to speak on behalf of First Amendment rights and others who have never caused a problem for anyone. Do these people sound like white supremacists and Nazis? There wasn't a Klansmen, Nazi or supremacist among them yet they were labeled as such by the press and some politicians. This wasn't Charlottesville, Virginia and the speakers had nothing to do with any of what happened down there. So again, my question – why?

The members of the news media that proclaimed it a peaceful event; among them news outlets like the Boston Globe with its ridiculous front page story praising the day seem not to be living in the real world. This is not 20 or even 5 years ago where they could report on an event and get away with lying about it. Social media now rules the day, virtually everyone has a phone with video and the real story is posted as it's happening for the entire world to see. And this is the reason the term 'Fake News' is being shouted at reporters and the only institution with higher unfavorable ratings than the press is congress.

The punks from Antifa got away with their violent ways once again and not one elected official or major news outlets has uttered a word of condemnation. These are punks and cowards that hate America, despise and assault cops

and attack anyone else who dares disagree with them. They hide behind their masks, wear clothing meant to look like ISIS uniforms and attempt to beat people with sticks and bats and usually do so when they outnumber their victims by 20 to 1. Don't take my word for it. If you haven't yet seen the video; go online and watch for yourself. And yet, most of the 33 that were arrested were released on personal recognizance and I'm guessing when and if they do appear in court again, they'll leave with a slap on the wrist.

So yet again I will ask the officials who continue to give these vile punks a pass, is it because you fear them or support what they do? If it's something else; and I certainly hope so, many of us would love to know what it is. Please, enlighten us.

I don't want to close this week's column without giving credit where it's due. The police were magnificent. Well trained, organized and professional. If it wasn't for that thin blue line on site Saturday, it would have been a true debacle. The restraint they showed went over and above anything they should have had to tolerate. Hopefully, the kid gloves will soon come off and they will be allowed to respond with the amount of force they should be granted in order to protect the public and protect themselves.

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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.

Miss Massachusetts looks to unseat Cape Republican

Now for a completely different kind of pageant: The reigning Miss Massachusetts has launched a campaign to unseat Republican Rep. David Viera of Falmouth in the 3rd Barnstable District, Geoff Spillane of the Cape Cod Times reports. Elizabeth Barlow, a Democrat, is a manager at the American Red Cross and the wife of an active Coast Guard cadet.

Kafker sworn in as newest SJC justice, following retirement of Hines

With little fanfare, Supreme Judicial Court Justice Geraldine Hines quietly retired last Friday, a few months before her mandatory retirement at the age of 70, ending her distinguished tenure as the first African-American woman to serve on the SJC, as reported at MassLive.

Yesterday, Scott Kafker, the former Appeals Court chief justice, was sworn in as her replacement in a private State House ceremony, according to the governor's office, as reported by SHNS's Katie Lannan at the Salem News. The appointment of Kafker, a Swampscott native who was nominated by Gov. Charlie Baker and who once served with Baker in the Weld administration, was previously approved for the SJC post by the Governor's Council. Kafker is now the fifth justice Baker has placed on the high court bench, Lannan notes.

Armed militia member among those arrested on Saturday

How close was Boston to becoming the next Charlottesville? Closer than many skeptics seem to appreciate. Besides the arrests of a slew of left-wing extremists at Saturday's Boston Common right-wing rally and counter-rallies, an out-of-state member of the Liberty State Militia was arrested for bringing body armor and a gun to the event, reports the Herald's Marie Szaniszlo. Can't stress this enough: Boston dodged a bullet on Saturday, figuratively, if not literally. There's a long, ugly history of extremists on

both sides violently going at it at such events.

Artists, historians and Alex Beam: Maybe slow down a bit on the post-Charlottesville cultural revolution?

Though they have no sympathy for far right-wing causes, many artists, museum curators and historic preservationist are getting increasingly nervous about the speed with which some Confederate statues and memorials are being taken down across the country in the wake of the Charlottesville tragedy, reports the New York Times. Ditto for many historians, reports the Boston Globe's Michael Levenson. The Globe's Alex Beam hates to admit it, but he says maybe Donald Trump was right when he suggested that after the Robert E. Lee statues are toppled, next to fall might be the statues of George Washington and Thomas Jefferson. It's already going beyond ex-Conderates and slave owners. Some are now going after Teddy Roosevelt.

'Then compassion replaced resentment'

The Globe's Steve Annear has a nice follow-up piece on Imani Williams, who helped save a Donald Trump supporter from a rough and ugly crowd at Saturday's Boston Common rally, even though she was there as a counter demonstrator to the right-wingers. Among her new admirers: author JK Rowling.

Holyoke school district, state hit with suit alleging discrimination against Latinos

A federal lawsuit alleges human rights violations and discrimination by the Holyoke Public Schools for failing to provide parents who speak limited English adequate translation services for a wide range of documents related to their children, including notices of meetings, evaluations, disciplinary notices and other materials, reports Michelle Williams at MassLive. The Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, the state education board and Holyoke public schools receiver Stephen Zrike are among those named in the suit.

T officer gets six months for beating Roxbury woman

From Bob McGovern at the Herald: "The former MBTA police officer convicted of beating a Roxbury woman at Dudley Square Station and then filing false reports will spend at least six months behind bars after a judge said he wanted his sentence to send a message. 'These crimes go to the heart of the honest public service that we have the right to demand from the police officers who exercise very substantial powers,' Suffolk Superior Court Judge Douglas Wilkins said."

Kennedy Compound, meet Shriver Compound

The Kennedy family empire on Cape Cod has geographically expanded. Timothy P. Shriver, the son of the late Eunice Kennedy Shriver, and his wife, lawyer Linda S. Potter, have bought a \$3.3 million, six-bedroom abode in Hyannisport, a half mile away from the famous Kennedy Compound, reports David Harris at the BBJ.

Lindstrom officially declares Senate candidacy, bemoans D.C. 'finger-pointing'

As expected, Beth Lindstrom, a former executive director of the state Lottery and former head of the state GOP, yesterday officially declared she was a candidate for the U.S. Senate, positioning herself as an "independent-minded Republican" and calling for the end to "trading insults" and "finger-pointing" in Washington, reports SHNS's Katie Lannan at the MetroWest Daily News. Lindstrom joins state Rep. Geoff Diehl, entrepreneur Shiva Ayyadurai and, possibly, businessman John Kingston in seeking the GOP nomination to take on U.S. Sen. Elizabeth Warren, a Democrat.

Berkshire Eagle story on decades-old abuse opens victim floodgates

Over the weekend, Berkshire Eagle reporter Bob Dunn published a disturbing and deeply reported story detailing allegations of sexual abuse in the 1970s by a former school custodian in Adams—some of which were confirmed by the now 94-year-old former custodian himself. Dunn now reports that five more men have stepped forward in the days since the story ran, saying they too were victimized.

PREGNANT WORKERS FAIRNESS BILL SIGNED INTO LAW

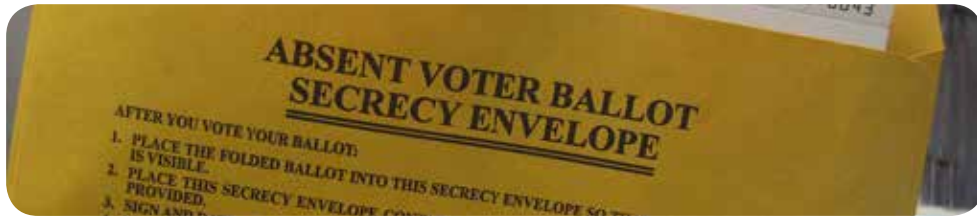
State Senator Linda Dorcea Forry and State Representative Nick Collins recently joined their colleagues to pass a bill that would ensure pregnant workers are given reasonable accommodations in the work place. The Legislature sent it to the Governor's desk where it was signed into law last week. I am immensely proud to support this bill that is important to women, important to families, and

important for our Commonwealth" said Rep. Collins. "This is the right thing to do to support healthy families and secure fundamental rights to reasonable accommodation. I am proud to work with my colleagues in the legislature, Senator Forry and Governor Baker to make this law."

The legislation makes it illegal for an employer to discriminate against, refuse to employ, or terminate an

individual due to pregnancy or a condition related to pregnancy. Although some employers voluntarily abide by these standards, solidifying these regulations into law guarantee these rights to all women employed anywhere in the Commonwealth. Reasonable accommodations may include time off to recover from childbirth; more frequent, longer paid or unpaid breaks; procuring

or modifying equipment or seating; obtaining temporary transfer, job restructuring, or lighter duty; and private non-bathroom space for expressing breast milk, among others. The bill directs companies to engage in a collaborative, good faith process with employees and prospective employees to determine effective and reasonable accommodations, and goes into effect in April 2018.



SOUTH BOSTON TODAY - By Staff

It's that time of year again. Many of South Boston's young people will be heading off to college as either returning students or freshmen. It's the end of summer rite of passage that has heads swirling with all the preparations and final touches needed to make the move. It's hectic and at times can be mind boggling. But, this time of year also comes with something else regarding what should be considered their civic duty by people of every age group, including departing students – VOTING.

Yes, voting is a right for every citizen over the age of 18 to take serious and make a priority. And just because you may not be at home on primary day or final Election Day does not mean you cannot

vote and make that vote count. You can vote by absentee ballot, in advance, and make your voice heard for the candidate of your choice.

This year's municipal elections are promoting the interest of many. Some great candidates will be on the ballot from the mayoral races to candidates for the Boston City Council; both at-large and district. If you are a student who will not be in Boston during this year's primary or the final election, read on to learn how to vote by absentee ballot.

To vote before you leave for school or even if you are not a student and will be out of town on a trip, you can go in person to the Election Department at Boston City Hall and fill out a ballot. Bring an ID with you. Hours to do this are Monday through Friday from 9am to 4:30pm. It only takes

a few minutes to do.

You can also go online to boston.gov/election, click on the 'absentee ballot' link and download a form and request an absentee ballot be sent to your home address. You can even call the city hall main number at 617-635-4000 and ask that an absentee ballot be sent out to you.

When you receive the ballot, it will ask for the reason for wanting/ needing to vote absentee. Again, as long as you are over the age of 18, are an American citizen and have been living in Boston with a permanent address since November 8th, 2016 you have the right to vote in this year's Boston primary and final election.

But there is another requirement. You must be registered to vote. If you are not yet registered and want to do so, and South Boston

Today urges everyone to do so, you have until September 6th to register if you want to be able to vote in this year's primary which will be on September 26th. To vote in the final election this year, you'll need to register by October 18th. This year's final election will be held on November 7th. You only need to register to vote once. Then you are on the rolls to vote from then on. There is no need to register for future elections unless your information; address etc changes.

Voting by absentee is quick and easy and the perfect way to make your voice heard if you cannot go to the polls in person. Again, it's your civic duty, generations of patriots have fought and died to give every American citizen this right. We honor those who fought for that right by voting.



Flynn Testifies On Used Drug Needles And Public Safety

Ed Flynn, candidate for Boston City Council District 2, offered public testimony at a Boston City Council hearing focused on keeping our parks, playgrounds, and streets clear of hypodermic needles. Flynn spoke in favor of efforts

to expand public safety investments, supporting programming to tackle addiction and support those in recovery, and reopening the Long Island Treatment Facility.

Earlier this month, City Councilor Annissa Essaibi-George filed legislation to address both the public health and public safety crisis being caused by more than 20,000 needles being recovered from parks, streets, and playgrounds just last year. City Councilor Michael F. Flaherty chaired the hearing in the Committee on Government Operations.

Flynn said, "Combating addiction and supporting those in recovery is critical to saving lives and making our city a safer and healthier place to live and raise a family. I applaud Councilor Essaibi-George, Councilor Flaherty, and Mayor Walsh's efforts to tackle these pressing public health and public safety issues. For the past decade, I've worked closely with residents whose lives have been ravaged by addiction, and I want to continue this advocacy as City Councilor. Furthermore, I want to make sure that all residents of District 2 always feel safe in public spaces where they live, work, and play."

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President & CEO John Thomas and
Chairman of the Board Jerry Ahern



A foursome from Synergent,
the Event Co-Sponsor



Chairman of the Mass Bay Credit Union Charitable Foundation
Golf Committee Joe Mosca announces the winners.

Mass Bay Credit Union Annual Charitable Golf Outing

The 3rd annual Mass Bay Credit Union Charitable Foundation Golf Tournament was held on Tuesday, August 15 by Mass Bay Credit Union and co-sponsored by Synergent at The Cape Club of Sharon in Sharon, Mass. Over 65 players joined local businesses and industry professionals in showing their

support for the Foundation through corporate sponsorships and donations. The pleasant day of golf was followed by an awards ceremony and dinner. "This tournament is a great driver for our Foundation," said President and CEO John Thomas "and has grown each year with our outstanding community support."

The proceeds of the tournament, which raised over \$30,000, benefited the Mass Bay Credit Union Charitable Foundation, established in 2015. Following the ideal of "People Helping People", the Foundation works to identify local organizations where Mass Bay can make a difference.

Mayor Walsh Issues RFP For Creative Industries Program

To create pipeline for Boston residents to jobs in the creative industries

To create pipeline for Boston residents to jobs in the creative industries

Mayor Martin J. Walsh announced the City of Boston has issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a consultant to design and implement a Creative Industries workforce development program within the Mayor's Office of Workforce Development (OWD). The initiative is a joint venture between OWD, Emerson College and the Massachusetts College of Art and Design (MassArt) and will identify how to create opportunities for Boston residents to gain employment in the Creative Industries.

The RFP builds off of a core component of Mayor Martin J. Walsh's Boston Creates Cultural Plan to prioritize, coordinate, and align public and private resources to strengthen the City of Boston's creative capital over the long term. The City of Boston will provide \$75,000 in funding for the execution of this feasibility study.

"In order to support and strengthen our creative industries sector, and to work to diversify its ranks, we must ensure that our young people and adults can access pathways to the careers where there is a demand," said Mayor Walsh. "I thank Emerson and MassArt for their partnership on this important initiative that will bring together public and private resources to create more opportunities for our residents."

"Emerson College is excited about the possibilities and opportunities this new partnership with the City of Boston could bring to area residents and the local creative economy," said Ruthanne Madsen, Vice President for Enrollment Management at Emerson College. "The findings of the study could assist us in identifying new educational pathways and programming to support student access, community engagement, and cultural enrichment."

"This partnership enables MassArt to better achieve our mission -- to prepare students from diverse backgrounds to participate in the creative economy," said Daniel Serig, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs at MassArt. "Boston students need and deserve access to these careers that continue to grow and expand."

The report will be used to increase knowledge within Boston Public Schools, to create more opportunities for Boston's young people to access careers in the creative economy. In a recent report, the Boston Planning & Development Agency found that creative employment in 2014 totaled 29,762 jobs in business establishments - this is 5.4 percent of Boston's total private sector payroll employment. An additional 6,483 people were self-employed in the creative industries. Including this self-employment measure, Boston's Cre-

ative Economy totals 36,254 workers. The 29,762 workers on payrolls across Boston took home over 2.4 billion dollars combined, averaging \$81,179 in annual wages. The RFP was released on Monday, August 21 and proposals are due by September 21 at 5 p.m.

About Boston Creates

In June 2016, Mayor Walsh announced the Boston Creates Cultural Plan, a ten-year initiative that will align public and private resources to strengthen cultural vitality over the long-term, and weave arts and culture into the fabric of everyday life. Cities with high levels of creative capital encourage, reward and integrate imaginative thinking into all aspects of community life. Boston wants to better understand the creative capital of Boston and develop a plan that will prioritize, coordinate, and align public and private resources to strengthen this creative capital over the long term.



Letter To Editor

Why I Support Corey Dinopoulos For City Council

I first met Corey Dinopoulos three years ago, when we found ourselves on opposite sides of the debate over bringing the 2024 Sum-

mer Olympics to Boston. Though we disagreed over the bid, I always admired Corey’s passion for making the city a better place, and his willingness to think big in order to achieve our broader shared goals for the city and region.

Boston is already a great place to live, but we can do even better. From the BPS budget to MBTA performance, the problems facing our Boston can only be solved by thinking boldly about our city’s future. That’s why I believe Corey is the best candidate to represent District 2, and to bring fresh, forward thinking to the City Council.

Corey understands that we should be pursuing policies that improve quality of life for all Bostonians, regardless of their income, race, or background. One of Boston’s strengths is that so many different types of people call it home, but more and more families feel priced out of our neighborhoods. We need housing that’s not only affordable, but integrated with transit in a way that makes sense for working families. Corey will be a strong voice for transit that is reliable and safe. He will also work for more protected bike lanes, which will make things safer for cyclists, and help us all do a better job of sharing

our crowded streets.

Business as usual simply won’t cut it anymore. We need someone who, through his actions, has demonstrated a desire to improve transportation here, rather than paying it lip service. I was happy to see Corey voice his support at a recent MBTA board meeting for a proposal that would revive late-night T service responsibly, benefiting thousands of hardworking men and women in the healthcare, foodservice, and construction industries. That’s the kind of leadership Boston needs.

Corey’s outreach to Olympic opponents demonstrated to me his commitment to bringing people together over shared values, even if we don’t always agree. I’m proud to support my old foe, and now friend, Corey. I encourage all voters in District 2 to do the same.

Join me by making a contribution or signing up to volunteer at www.coreyforboston.com

Chris Dempsey
Fmr. Co-Chair, No Boston Olympics



18th Annual South Boston Street Festival

Saturday, September 16th 2017 -11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

On East Broadway between I Street and L Street, South Boston

The South Boston Chamber of Commerce in partnership with South Boston Neighborhood Development Corporation is pleased to announce that the 18th Annual South Boston Street Festival will take place on Saturday, September 16, 2017. Over the past seventeen years, the festival has grown significantly and has become South Boston’s most highly anticipated events, attracting over 8,000 residents and visitors.

This year’s festival will once again feature “The Best of South Boston” including over 100 merchants, restaurants, artists and community organizations, which will fill the festival area from 11:00

a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Live entertainment will take place on two stages providing festival goers with a fun filled day.

This year’s entertainment highlights include:

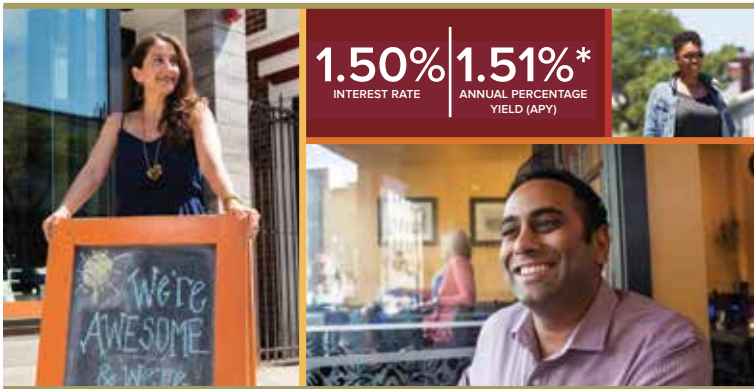
Thomas Park – Lead by front man Paul Eastman, who himself is a South Boston small business owner along with drummer Joe Tobias, will be performing a wide range of music that includes classic rock, dance, R&B, and top 40.

The Royal Furs, will be returning once again this year - playing country favorite hits.

There will be performances by: The Peggy Wood’s School of Irish Step Dance, Miss Linda’s Dancers, Ultimate Self Defense. And much more!

FREE – Children’s activities in-

continued on page 14



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The Wine Guy

Look on the White Side!

As I'm writing this column, which I believe you'll see on August 24th, it's the weekend before, a Friday afternoon and the burning question in my small, but focused mind is: "Red or white?". It's breezy, but trying to become more humid, so I'm leaning towards the whiter side of things. Take a further look to see some wines that will get you enjoyably through the last days of August and into Labor Day.

If you think it's been hot in our area lately, it's been far worse in Tuscany, where temperatures have been in the high 90's for much of the summer. But the people there don't seem to mind; and, why should they? When they've got white wines like the 2015 Dogajolo Toscano Bianco, I.G.T., (\$13.99). It's a centuries-old recipe of Northern Italian Chardonnay, blended with a slightly sweet Grichetto and drier Sauvignon

Blanc. Floral and herbaceous notes on the nose and a really nice finish combine to make this one a natural for anything with cheese on it or in it. You can also have it with shellfish and white meats.

Over in France right now, the hot and breezy days and nights, (especially in the South, where the "Mistral" comes down from the mountains in the north) demand a white of stature and body. While wines from Burgundy usually come to mind, I wanted to point out a region that isn't usually associated with white wine, but really should be. In the Rhone Valley, best-known for its reds, there are some tremendous whites. One of the best is the 2014 Domaine Alain Graillot Crozes-Hermitage Blanc, (\$28.99), a native grape white with all the right components—great balance, low acidity, supple notes of pears, apricot and honey. A seriously long finish makes this one



easily complement to duck, pheasant, quail or cornish hens. They've been making wines in this region for over 1,000 years, so they've had plenty of time to get it right!

Moving further east, France's Alsace-Lorraine offers some of the best Rieslings on the planet. This region is also an ancient one, with Roman historian Pliny noting the quality of the area's wines nearly 2,000 years ago; probably the last time an Italian paid a French wine a compliment!

The Hugel family, located in the beautiful town of Riquewihr, have been making wine for almost four hundred years and their 2015 Riesling Classic, Famille Hugel, (\$21.99), is the epitome of all of this region's best—supple flavors of honey, pear and melon with the structure to let it complement any kind of poached or grilled seafood.

Another one of the most famous

family labels in this area is that of the Trimbachs, who've been making some of the world's best wines since 1626—thirteen generations. From the current line of Reserve wines comes their 2014 Trimbach Pinot Gris, Reserve, Ribeauville, (\$17.99). Fresh fruit flavors, low acidity and great balance, with hints of grassiness and herbs on the palate give this one a flexibility that can let you serve it with any part of a meal. Great with cheese and fruit, grilled seafoods, even dessert courses. This wine also lays down well and will improve in bottle for the next five to ten years.

So, when you hear about heatwaves and health warnings from Europe, don't feel too worried about them—they've got plenty of "options"!

NEXT WEEK: Springtime in Australia! Ask the Wine Guy at jdris8888@gmail.com!

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Track 61 Project

continued from front page

the track, after buying a bunch of rail lines from the freight operator CSX in 2009. Manufacturers were rolling out a more affordable rail car, known as a diesel multiple unit, or DMU, that cities across the country were eager to try. Rich Davey, then Transportation Secretary under Governor Deval Patrick, was quoted at the time saying, "It's not much to look at and we own the line. We control our own destiny. It's not that complicated, as a transportation project goes."

Jim Rooney, then Executive Director of the Mass. Convention Center Authority, expecting a DMU station outside of the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center, said, "A direct train would be a huge feature from a competitive standpoint. If you think about it, you can walk outside the door and get into the Copley complex, which connects 3,000 hotel rooms — Sheraton, Westin, Marriott."

As a matter of background, DMUs were once known as Budd cars. They are self-propelled trains that do not rely on locomotive

engines, making them ideal for short distances and frequent stops. Manufacturers are now making federally compliant DMUs, prompting more cities like Boston to look at them as a low-cost alternative to traditional rail. A DMU train car can cost about \$4 million, compared to about \$10 million for a locomotive train.

All of this backdrop begs the question of the reality of extending this rail to the Back Bay as a transportation option to facilitate passengers into the South Boston Waterfront. Two miles separate these two sections of Boston and it is a further reality that those two miles might as well be twenty miles. Traffic clogs thoroughfares during the rush hours, and it can be hard to get a seat on the Silver Line at peak times, forcing commuters to wait it out for the next bus.

The bottom line is that the State and the MBTA should be upfront with the South Boston residents, and Fort Point in particular, about their long-term plan. The residents of South Boston are not naïve nor should they be treated as such.

Recent South Boston Real Estate Sales

Property/Type	Price	Sale Date	Rooms	Baths	Sq Ft
22 Liberty St UNIT PH 1H Condo	\$1,820,000	6/20/17	4	2	1405
141 Dorchester St UNIT 812 Condo	\$1,495,000	6/16/17	4	2.5	1902
515 East First St UNIT 5 Condo	\$1,175,000	6/23/17	4	2.5	1750
309 E St UNIT 23 Condo	\$915,000	6/16/17	3	2	1132
584 East Thirs St UNIT 302 Condo	\$880,000	6/23/17	5	2	1298
91 Old Harbor St UNIT 2 Condo	\$849,000	6/20/17	5	2	1300
141 Dorchester Ave UNIT 412 Condo	\$775,000	6/23/17	3	1	1113
846 East Fifth St UNIT 1 Condo	\$760,000	6/21/17	5	2	1124
462 East Seventh St UNIT 1 Condo	\$750,008	6/23/17	5	2.5	1330
18-20 Knowlton St UNIT 8 Condo	\$685,000	6/21/17	8	2	1102
71 Willow Court UNIT 9 Condo	\$680,000	6/22/17	6	2	1071
598 East Seventh St UNIT 1 Condo	\$588,000	6/22/17	5	1	894
693 East Eighth St UNIT 1 Condo	\$574,500	6/16/17	5	2	984
175 West Seventh St UNIT 2 Condo	\$530,000	6/23/17	4	1	760
102 D St UNIT 3 Condo	\$520,000	6/21/17	3	1	817
386 East Eighth St UNIT 6 Condo	\$430,000	6/19/17	4	1	800
17 Twomey Court UNIT 66 Condo	\$310,000	6/20/17	3	1	490


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Boston Water and Sewer Commission (BWSC)
980 Harrison Avenue
Boston, MA 02119

WATER MAIN FLUSHING NOTICE

Boston Water and Sewer Commission will begin Water Main Flushing in the Dorchester and South Boston areas starting:

August 27, 2017 through October 5, 2017

The boundaries for the areas being flushed are: Courthouse Way to the north, Old Colony Avenue at Msgr. O’Callaghan Way to the south, Day Boulevard to the east and West 4th Street at Foundry Street to the west.

The purpose of the Water Main Flushing Program is to improve drinking water quality for residents and businesses.

Water Main flushing will take place between the hours of
10:00 P.M. and 6:00 A.M.

The flushing process may cause discolored water and a reduction in pressure. The discoloration of the water will be temporary and is not harmful. If the condition persists, please contact BWSC’s 24 Hour Service at (617) 989-7000.

BWSC appreciates your patience as we work to improve the quality of drinking water we will provide to the residents and businesses of Boston.

If you have any questions, contact BWSC’s Night Operations Manager at (617) 989-7000 or visit our website @ www.bwsc.org.



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Boston High School Girls Win “Club of the Year” at Girl Up’s annual Leadership Summit in Washington, D.C.

A local high school club from Boston Collegiate Charter School in Dorchester, MA, won first place among over 1,400 Girl Up chapters worldwide to take the Club of the Year award during their recent national Leadership Summit, held annually in Washington, D.C. The founder and leader of BCCS Girl Up, Roslindale native Kiera Fair, was present to accept the award from YouTube entertainers Brooklyn and Bailey, and also lead a workshop and breakout session at the event.



Kiera Fair, Boston native and President of BCCS Girl Up, accepting the award for 2016-2017 Club of the Year on behalf of her club, BCCS Girl Up. The award was presented by Youtubers, Brooklyn and

Bailey (photo credit: Girl Up).

Girl Up Club of the Year Award:

Recognizes the club which earned the most points in the Girl Up Community online, out of over 1,400 clubs worldwide. Points are earned by fundraising, hosting events, posting photos, and participating in featured Girl Up challenges.

BCCS Girl Up:

- Local chapter founded by Kiera Fair in March 2016 at Boston Collegiate Charter School, a public school in Dorchester, MA
- BCCS Girl Up has a total of 50 members, in a high school of under 400 students
- During the 2016-2017 school year, BCCS Girl Up lead all clubs in the Girl Up Community with 17,607 points to win Club of the Year, presented at the annual Leadership Summit in Washington, D.C. in July 2017.
- Engages students to teach leadership and advocacy skills, in addition to community outreach through tabling at local events, farmer’s markets, even marching in a parade
- In less than 2 short years, BCCS Girl Up has raised almost \$10,000 through various fundraisers:

Girl Up:

Girls are powerful. When they’re educated, healthy, and safe, they transform their communities.

When girls stand up for girls in need, they empower each other and transform our world. As the United Nations Foundation’s adolescent girl campaign, Girl Up engages girls to take action. Led by a community of nearly half a million passionate advocates raising awareness and funds, our efforts help the hardest to reach girls living in places where it is hardest to be a girl.

Girl Up 6th Annual Leadership Summit in Washington, D.C.:

July 17th -19th, 2017 -Speakers included model/actress Cara Delevingne, Sophie Gregoire Trudeau, and Amanda Gorman, the Youth Poet Laureate. Girls stormed Capitol Hill to advocate for H.R. 2408, the Protecting Girls Access to Education in Vulnerable Settings Act, a bill which would allow refugee girls to get an education.

“Girl up is the most influential club at our school. We created a space for people to help others and see the impact of what we do as a club. Our club has been able to connect with other clubs in our school like our robotics team, our multicultural club and our principal’s council. We were able to bring the clubs together and create new and improved ways of thinking for the students.” --Keira Ahern of South Boston, BCCS Girl Up Vice President

continued on page 11



Girl Up Campaign Officer, Bailey Leuschen (pictured left), and Kiera Fair (pictured right), the President of BCCS Girl Up and Leader of the Girl Up Boston Coalition with the 2016-2017 Club of the Year Award.



Girl Up Boston Coalition President, and Leader of BCCS Girl Up, Kiera Fair, led a workshop on how to plan a regional summit after she hosted a successful Boston Coalition Summit.





The Knights Need Shining Armor And Our Help

The South Boston/Excel Knights, the football team up at South Boston/Excel High School finds itself in a dilemma. They are set to compete on the varsity level again this year, as the start of their season fast approaches. But, the money needed to field a well-equipped team is lacking. Yes, the city does provide money

to support this and other teams in other schools in Boston. But the city has a limited budget as well and does what it can. But in today's environment, in order to compete on a level playing field with other teams much more money is needed. In a social media post, The Knights' head coach Germaine Sattiewhite said they also need more footballs, video editing equipment, recruiting software and a variety of other items to be on a par with other football organizations in the age of rapidly changing technology and increased safety consciousness; especially when it comes to this sport.

Coach Sattiewhite has started an effort to help raise funds over and above what the Boston Public Schools are able to provide. Part of the effort is a 'gofundme' account to which he is hoping sympathetic and concerned South Bostonians might be willing to donate to. The goal is to raise \$5000. At this writing, it has so far raised just over \$800; still a long way to go for a season that's set to start soon. The gofundme account address accepting donations is <https://www.gofundme.com/3wu754-so.bostonexcel-football-knights/donate>.

South Boston Today had the plea-

sure of speaking with Coach Sattiewhite about the fundraising effort and his passion, which is coaching and training young athletes to be the best they can be. This is a good man who works hard and devotes so much time to his coaching activities at the high school and a variety of other commitments that we had to ask him when he finds the time to sleep. He's also a strength coach and trainer along with other coaching duties which includes baseball. Like all good coaches, high up on the list of concerns is the safety of his players. Currently, the Knights use equipment that is getting old. But even though it's old, he and the City of Boston/Boston Public Schools make sure that it meets safety standards as it is sent out each year to be refurbished. But helmets for example, have a 10-year life span on average, but still have to be sent out before the next season begins to be checked and repaired when needed. This is a priority. But again, nothing lasts forever.

The Knights' first game is September 16th and they plan to be ready. We asked Coach Sattiewhite how his team looked. With pride in his voice he replied that "They are a young team but very talented. They

work hard and give each game and practice everything they've got." They will be prepared for the 10-game season. Like most teams, the Knights are a close knit and tight group. They all love the sport and make sure they give the fans and spectators quite a show when they take to the field. They are like family and enjoy what they do.

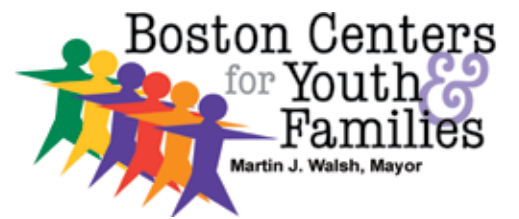
The sport of football, especially when it comes to young players, has undergone much controversy in the past few years. Safety concerns, particularly head injuries, are a problem. So, it's important that the equipment used be tested and safe. Add to this the need of all the new high-tech items that help bring the sport into the 21st Century and it can get expensive. And as head coach Germaine Sattiewhite emphatically stated, the City of Boston provides all the support it can. But to make the Knights competitive, like most high school sports clubs, additional funding is needed and that's the reason for the appeal to the community to consider donating to this effort. Again, those willing and able to assist can do so by going to <https://www.gofundme.com/3wu754-so.bostonexcel-football-knights/donate>. Go Knights.



Girl Up...continued from page 10

"Girl Up means a lot to me and to many others as well because it all boils down to this one simple fact: girls can do anything. We are powerful, we are kind, we are smart, and most importantly of all we are girls." --Caitlin Vinton of South Boston, BCCS Girl Up Member

"Girl Up provides girls and women of all ages with the strength and hope to accomplish whatever they set their minds to, and for that I am beyond grateful to not only be part of Girl Up, but BCCS Girl Up in particular. It is a positive force that I know will continue to grow and help those in need!" --Makayla DiFranco of South Boston, BCCS Girl Up Member.

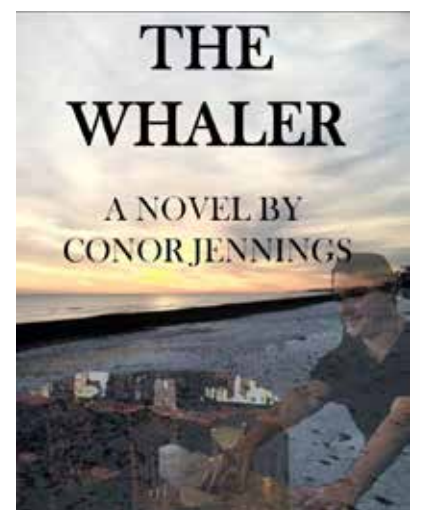
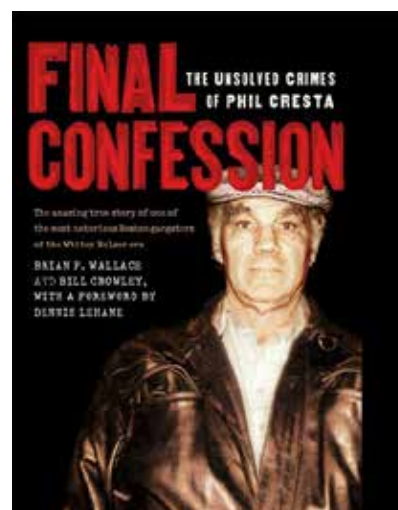
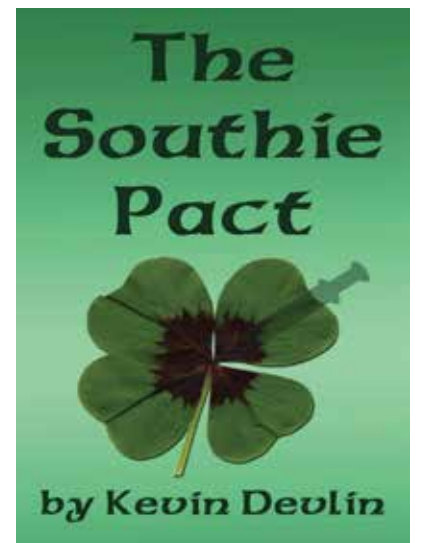
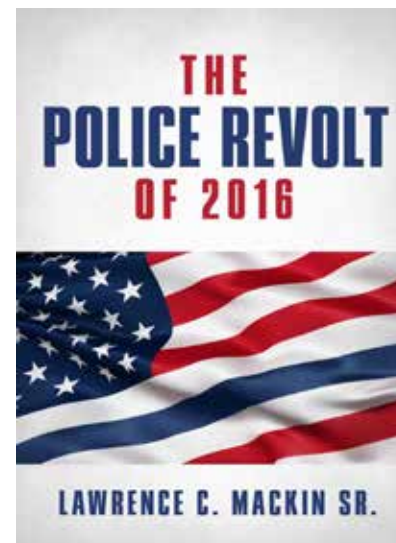


The Tynan Girls BNBL 18 & Under Site Champs, Wolfpack, represented South Boston in the City Finals on Monday night. The Wolfpack squared off against the talented Showstoppers team. With a slow start in the first half, the girls came back and played a strong second, never giving up. The Showstoppers proved to be too strong and experienced, taking the victory and Championship. Congratulations to the Wolfpack team: Kerby Gillis, Holly

Gillis, Carly Heffernan, Mary Kate Golden, Alexis Honzik, Nell Fredericks, Ava Baldassari, Sydni Britton, Katelyn Pease, Sara Rufo, Kelsey Nolan, and Allison McGough for a great season.



PACIFIC OCEAN (July 31, 2017) Navy Chief Petty Officer Alishia Prescott, a Boston native, assigned to the amphibious assault ship USS America (LHA 6), proctors a security reaction force qualification live fire exercise on the ship's port elevator. America, part of the America Amphibious Ready Group, with embarked 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit, is operating in the Indo-Asia Pacific region to strengthen partnerships and serve as a ready-response force for any type of contingency.



Writers come in many forms - author, novelist, playwright, poet, essayist, biographer, columnist, reporter, wordsmith, bard - and South Boston has a fair share of these. In this edition of South Boston Today, we are pleased to feature four authors from South Boston and their latest books for your review.



East Boston Savings Bank Babe Ruth League Champs

Last week, the South Boston Babe Ruth league held the Championship Series down Moakley Park, between the defending champions, East Boston Savings Bank and Boston Home Inspectors. The league dedicated the series to the memory of Colleen Tallent (McMurray)

Beloved wife of Mike Tallent, manager of the Jack Hart club, who succumbed to ovarian cancer on July 1. In a classy display of unity and appreciation, the league wore teal ribbons in her memory.

In the best three out of five series, the teams played a very entertaining championship caliber game one, featuring the top two pitchers in the league facing off versus each other, Logan Crowley (EBSB) and Christian Mazzeo (BHI).

In the top of the first, EBSB jumped out with 3-0 lead starting with a Logan Crowley double and Kevin Cully driving him in with a single, followed by a Nolan Callow double, and ending with a Frank Casper walk to force in the third run of the inning.

BHI would answer with a run in each of the next three innings to tie it up at three. In the first inning Mick Crowley singled home Paddy Craddock and Brian Miller doubled in the second, to be driven in by Aiden Young's single. The third inning, Sean Cannon brought the crowd to its feet with a dramatic game-tying home run.

Mazzeo settled down and pitched three scoreless innings until the fifth, when EBSB broke the tie with three runs. Bobby Delaney doubled home Crowley and Cully, who then scored on a Jack Feeney single. EBSB put

another one on the board in the sixth with a Michael Brooks' double, who then stole third and scored on a ground out making it 7-3.

BHI would not go down quietly and pulled it close with two of their own in the bottom of the sixth when Jack McGinn and Miller, singled and Evan Markos drove them in with the third single of the inning. That's where the scoring ended as Logan Crowley completed a fine pitching performance, going the distance and giving EBSB a 7-5 victory in game one.

Game 2 featured pitchers Sean Cannon and Bobby Delaney. This time it was BHI striking first with a run in the top of the first on a single by Mick Crowley, driving in Craddock (single.) Cannon was cruising and pitching great, but ran into some trouble in the fourth, as EBSB exploded for five runs. Struggling with his command, Lydon McGarrell and Owen Leahy lead off with walks and Crowley drove them in with a single. Followed up with singles by Cully, Delaney and Feeney, and a bases-loaded walk by Cormac Lafferty, EBSB took a commanding 7-1 lead.

Delaney would cruise through five, looking like the game was in hand, BHI would continue to play hard and break through in the top of the sixth with seven runs of their own and taking an 8-7 lead, driving Delaney from the game and stunning the defending champions. There were two big bases-loaded singles by Danny Potember and Aaron Mulligan and bases loaded walks by Joe Hamilton and Nolan Zdanavage accounting for the runs.

With a big lead and a golden

opportunity to take a 2-games to 0 lead in the series squandered, the question was, how would EBSB respond? It didn't take long for the defending champions to answer. In the bottom of the inning, they put up five of their own to retake the lead 12 to 8, with the big blow coming from the bat of Nolan Callow, who doubled with the bases-loaded scoring Brooks (single), Cully and Crowley. Delaney drove in Callow and was driven in by Lafferty. That would prove to be enough as Kevin Cully closed out the game keeping BHI's bats quiet and picked up a hard-fought win, 12-9 to take a commanding two games to 0 lead in the series.

In game three, reminiscent of Willis Reed, a depleted and injured BHI pitching staff, summoned the Uber God's and their prayers were answered when Jack Matthews drove up from the Cape to pitch. EBSB countered with their own pitching star and winner of game one, Logan Crowley. EBSB would strike for two in the top of the first with Brooks, (a walk, 2 stolen bases) and Crowley (walk, SB) both scoring on a single by Cully. In the third, Crowley took matters into his own hands with a walk and stealing second third and home for a 3-0 lead.

The Score would remain unchanged until the top of the fifth, when Callow single, and Delaney doubled, and with great heads up base running by Will Ahearn lead to scoring the second and last run of the inning. That run would prove to be huge. Edward Murray (three singles), and Leahy (two singles) also contributed in the inning. The

score was now 5-2.

BHI would do what they have done throughout the series, scratch and claw and come back and answer with runs of their very own each and every time. Nothing would be easy and the team that would win had to earn every game, inning by inning, pitch by pitch.

In the bottom of the fifth, Hamilton would lead off with a single, followed by a walk to Kennedy. Then what could be described as the defining moment of the game and possibly the series, Owen Leahy laid himself out in left field, without any regard for his body and made an incredible diving catch, to prevent two runners from scoring and better yet keep the tying run off the bases. It would be huge because Matthews would later double and scored those two runs but would be left stranded. The score was 5 to 4. Matthews would be stingy and not allow another run for the rest of the way but Crowley was dominant and wouldn't allow a hit or a baserunner over the last seven batters, winning the game and back to back championships for EBSB.

Crowley who won games one and three would be named MVP of the championship series.

Congratulations to both EBSB and BHI for a very entertaining and very well played competitive series. All the managers and coaches would like to thank SBBRL President Kevin Lally and all team sponsors, John Hart Club, East Boston Savings Bank, Boston Home Inspectors and our travel team sponsors Dedham Savings Bank and Massport for all their continued support throughout the years.



The Solar Eclipse: Maybe Just a Bit Too Much Hype?

Certain parts of America got the ultimate show in regard to Monday's solar eclipse. If you were in Oregon or South Carolina or any number of other locations along a certain path, it was incredible. But here in our area, not so much. Many residents let us know that they were not all that impressed after being whipped into an 'eclipse mania' by media hype for the

past 2 months. In fact, it was only during the past few days that the media kind of prepared us and began saying that well, it won't really get all that dark in the north east; only about 63 percent coverage, not the 'in total-ity' they had been working hard to convince us we'd get.

To listen to reports for weeks on end, you'd think we'd be wandering around in darkness like it was midnight. Now of course, we're not blaming the natural phenomenon displayed by the moon and sun in all their glory. It was an historical

event. But much like the hysteria meteorologists whip up each year as the season's first snow fall approaches; sending frantic shoppers to the markets to strip the shelves of bread and milk which then so often turns out to be 2 inches of fluff, the false anticipation created tends to disappoint many.

A suggestion for those in the mainstream media: Start reporting honestly and accurately without all the sensationalism and you might; just might, one day regain the credibility you had many, many years ago.

ORDER FOR SERVICE BY		Docket No. SU16W0589WD	Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLICATION <input type="checkbox"/> MAILING <input type="checkbox"/> _____			
Yaffaira A. Perez Fernandez vs. Ramon A. Soto		Suffolk Probate and Family Court 24 New Chardon Street Boston, MA 02114 (617)788-8300	
Upon motion of plaintiff(s)/petitioner(s) for an order directing the defendant(s)/respondent(s), to appear, plead, or answer, in accordance with Mass.R.Civ.P./Mass.R.Dom.Rel.P. Rule 4, it appearing to the court that this is an action for Custody/Support/Parenting Time filed on March 28, 2016 .			
Defendant(s)/Respondent(s) cannot be found within the Commonwealth and defendant(s)/respondent(s) present whereabouts are unknown. Personal service on defendant is therefore not practicable, and defendant(s)/respondent(s) has/have not voluntarily appeared in this action.			
It is Ordered that defendant(s)/respondent(s) is/are directed to appear, plead, answer, or otherwise move with respect to the complaint/petition herein on or before the return day of 09/21/2017 .			
If you fail to do so this Court will proceed to a hearing and adjudication of this matter.			
<input type="checkbox"/> It is further Ordered that the accompanying summons be published once in the SOUTH BOSTON TODAY <small>(name of newspaper)</small>			
a newspaper published in: 396 WEST BROADWAY, PO BOX 491 SOUTH BOSTON, MASS 02127 617-464-7280 <small>(include mailing address of newspaper)</small>			
the publication to be 14 days at least before said return day. It is further Ordered that a copy of the summons be mailed to the defendant(s)/respondent(s) at his/her/their last known address by registered or certified mail.			
Date 7/25/17		JOAN P. ARMSTRONG Judge of Probate and Family Court JUSTICE OF PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT BY <i>[Signature]</i> Assistant Judicial Case Manager	
RETURN OF SERVICE			
I hereby certify under the penalties of perjury that: I have complied with the order of notice by: <input type="checkbox"/> mailing <input type="radio"/> certified <input type="radio"/> registered a copy of the summons as ordered and, <input type="checkbox"/> causing the summons to be published in _____ Publication was on _____ which was at least _____ days _____ month(s) before said return day.			
Date: _____		Signature: _____	
NOTE: Proof of service must be made in compliance with Mass.R.Civ.P./Mass.R.Dom.Rel.P. Rule 4 and may be made on this form. This form may NOT be used for actions for divorce or separate support.			

CITATION ON PETITION FOR ORDER OF COMPLETE SETTLEMENT

Docket No. SU16P0942EA

Commonwealth Of
Massachusetts

The Trial Court

Probate and Family Court

Estate of: **Michael Joseph O'Dwyer**

Date of Death: **02/14/2016**

Suffolk Probate and Family Court
24 New Chardon Street,
Boston, MA 02114 (617) 788-8300

A Petition for Order of Complete Settlement has been filed by

William M O'Dwyer
of

Braintree MA

Requesting that the court enter a formal Decree of Complete Settlement including the allowance of a final account, and other such relief as may be requested in the Petition.

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 09/19/2017. 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.

WITNESS, Hon. Joan P Armstrong
First Justice of this Court

August 11, 2017

Terri Klug Cafazzo, Register of Probate
August 24, 2017

Street Festival Continued from page 7

clude face painters, balloon twisters, street performers, and the New England Aquarium tide pool -Be sure to keep an eye out for a band of roaming Pirates.

Enjoy a great selection of food options - from some of South Boston's favorite food establishments including; Capo, Larry J's Barbecue, Lincoln Tavern, Loco, Joseph's Bakery, The Juice Box, The Sausage Guy, Sweet Tooth Bakery, Miam Miam Macaronerie and many others. Alfresco dining will be available at, The Cranberry

Café, Café Porto Bello, The Paramount, and Roza Lyons just to name a few.

Shop until-you-drop - enjoy outstanding savings from local retailers including; Best Dressed, Bringing Up Baby, Covet, Habit, Ku De Ta, Pretty Reckless, Southie's Own, The Beauty Bar, Wears + Wares and many more.

Be sure to visit the many booths of South Boston's and the areas vital non-profit agencies.

For up to date information visit : www.southbostonstreetfestival.com



This week, Danny shared his thoughts on some of the top stories in the sports world:

Last time I talked to you, I gave you my WWE SummerSlam preview. To which, many probably said, “That’s not a sports topic! Stick to sports!” Well, ok, it’s “sports entertainment,” and I happen to enjoy it, and I should let you know that I happened to enjoy SummerSlam on Sunday in Brooklyn. Brock Lesnar retained the Universal Championship, Jinder Mahal retained the WWE Championship, A.J. Styles retained the United States Championship, and Dean Ambrose and Seth Rollins had a mini “Shield” reunion while winning the Raw Tag Team Championship. I thought the best match of the night was Styles vs Kevin Owens, with Shane McMahon the special guest referee. I’m not going to go into too much detail here, but figured I’d let you know that, overall, I thought SummerSlam was a major success.

Now onto some fighting in which the results are not pre-determined -- we think. That’s Floyd Mayweather vs Conor McGregor this Saturday night in Las Vegas. As I write this, Mayweather is the favorite at -475. If you feel like getting nuts, then McGregor is +350. I made my original prediction to this fight when it was first announced,

and my thoughts haven’t changed since. I’m taking Mayweather to win, all day. Now, I’m not actually putting money down on it. Mainly because I don’t think I trust the sport of boxing enough to where I’m 100 percent sure this one would be scored by the judges if it did go the distance. I’ve seen at least three major fighters this year get screwed by a shady decision. And let’s just say Mayweather/McGregor goes the full 12 rounds. Who knows what’s in the plans. Maybe they are just going to try and turn this into a controversial trilogy. I wouldn’t be surprised, and because of that, I would never put that much money in the hands of the judges in this one. But if you’re asking me to play with some fake money here, then put the dollhouse on Mayweather to come out on top.

As the NFL preseason rolls on, we get ready for the New England Patriots to play their third of four preseason games, this weekend in Detroit. The third preseason game is known as the “dress rehearsal,” where you’ll see the starters get the most playing time of any preseason game. Expect Tom Brady and the boys to play at least the entire first half. But I’ll be honest, I’d be just fine if Brady didn’t suit up again

until Week 1 at home against Kansas City. There’s just no need to risk it, in my opinion. But Brady’s opinion matters most in this situation, so he’ll probably choose to play as much as he usually does in the third preseason game, which again is the entire first half and then some. Week 1 can’t come soon enough.

Magic Johnson and the Los Angeles Lakers are reportedly being investigated for possibly tampering with Paul George. The investigation comes as a result of Johnson’s appearance on Jimmy Kimmel Live, where Johnson joked about giving a “wink, wink” to George when talking to him about his future. That “wink, wink” referred to his potential recruiting job as Lakers president of basketball operations. Clearly, Johnson was joking. But also, clearly just mentioning that he would like George to be a Laker on national TV -- while George is a member of another organization -- should qualify as tampering. So, let’s call it just that. Still, I’m not saying I care. I understand that tampering happens in every sport, with every team. If you think otherwise, you’re a fool. Let me give you a perfect example. Several

years ago, a professional athlete who played for a team outside of New England, showed me a text that an opposing GM sent him. It read, “Come to Boston and be a legend.” We laughed about it. It was clearly an illegal move, as the GM was trying to recruit a player on another team before that player was even a free agent. An alarm in’t go off in my head that told me I needed to report it as tampering. Instead, it just proved to me that tampering exists, and there’s really nothing we can do about it. That player chose not to come to Boston to become a legend. So at the end of the day, tamper all you want. These are big boys. They can make their own decisions for themselves. And George is no exception. He currently has one year left on his deal before he can opt out and become an NBA free agent next summer. Whether Johnson and the Lakers tamper with him or not, he’s going to play where he wants. So, let’s just all move on from this tampering investigation. Because it happens everywhere.

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