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October 5, 2017: Vol.5 Issue 39

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# BPS Busing Meets High Tech

It looks like busing is here to stay or, rather, efficient busing is here to stay. When leaders of the Boston Public Schools (BPS) decided last year to revamp their large, complex and inefficient bus system, they turned to advanced analytics and a crowd-sourcing challenge to tackle the long-standing problem.

BPS 25,000 students via 650 buses across 45,000 miles. Within this system, BPS buses made more than 20,000 unique stops at nearly 5,000 different locations every day. A BPS official said the main problem was empty buses.

As reported by Edscoop.com, the school system collaborated on the data-driven initiative with SAS, a North Carolina-based provider of business intelligence and data

**CONTINUED ON page 13** 

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# **EDITORIAL**

#### Thankfully, America's Police Officers Risk Their Lives for All



t's been disheartening to see the way a small segment of the population is on an antipolice crusade as of late. But we only have to watch the way these men and women in blue have so selflessly responded to the recent tragedies. During and after the fierce hurricanes to hit Texas, Florida and Puerto Rico, police officers risked their lives along with other first responders in rescue operations that helped save not only people in danger, but even animals. And during the weekend's mass shooting in Las Vegas, while most people were understandably fleeing the gun shots of a madman, police ran toward the flying

bullets in an effort to locate and then to take out the killer, as quickly as they possibly could.

Members of America's law enforcement take their oath and motto to 'Protect and Serve' very seriously and thank God that they do. Because, without their skill, professionalism and courage where would the public be? It's important that those who appreciate the dangerous job the police have let them know it. The voices of support for our law enforcement personnel should be loud, strong and encouraging to these heroes and overwhelm the voices of those, who hold the rule of law and those who enforce it in contempt.

"Our unity cannot be shattered by evil. Our bonds cannot be broken by violence" – **President Donald J. Trump** 

# Sheriff Steven Tompkins Endorses Ed Flynn For City Council

d Flynn, candidate for Boston City Council District 2, has been endorsed by Suffolk County Sheriff Steven Tompkins. Just last week, Flynn won the District 2 Preliminary Election besting his nearest competitor by over 2,200 votes. Despite his success, Flynn was back on the campaign trail Wednesday and has been working hard ever since. Today, Flynn said, "I am honored to receive the endorsement of Suffolk County Sherriff Steven Tompkins."

Sheriff Tompkins said, "Ed Flynn has been a tireless advocate for the residents of his district and a dedicated public servant to his country, as a member of the United States Armed Forces. His support of addiction recovery services and early intervention programming, public safety initiatives and increased access to affordable health care for all are just a few of the reasons that I am giving my endorsement to Ed in his

campaign to become the next Boston City Councilor for District 2."

Tompkins continued, "Ed's efforts to improve the state of public education for the children of Boston, provide needed services to our veterans and enhance the quality of life in our neighborhoods as a member of local civic organizations show the kind of civic pride and responsibility that would serve him well in office as a member of the Council.

Sheriff Tompkins's endorsement adds to a growing list of elected officials and residents supporting Flynn, including Congressman Stephen F. Lynch, State Representative Nick Collins, City Councilor At-Large Michael Flaherty, Suffolk County SJC Clerk Maura Doyle, Suffolk County Clerk Michael Donovan, the Mass Nurses Association, the Ironworkers Local 7, and over 30 local organizations and unions.



#### **SouthBostonTODAY**

PO Box 491 • South Boston, MA 02127

Publisher John Ciccone Editor In Chief Brian R. Mahoney

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# Information Center



#### Thoughts on Puerto Rico, Las Vegas and Fake News

**SOUTH BOSTON TODAY** 

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

■ ake News, what is it? It doesn't just come in one form. Sure, there is the most blatant and obvious type when a phony story is just made up or fabricated about something that never happened. Plenty of those have been exposed not only the one's on social media sites but even on major network news and in some of the nation's largest newspapers and magazines. But the more common type of Fake News is when things are added through speculation or attributed to nonexistent 'anonymous sources' or omitted in an effort to deliberately change what readers and viewers see and hear. The most recent example of this is what's going on in Puerto Rico in the aftermath of the Hurricane that caused so much damage and devastation.

Carmen Yulin Cruz, the Mayor of San Juan; a Democrat, originally praised the response by President Trump and the feds. But that was short lived. Approached by political operatives in her party, she was told to stop the praise and heap criticism on Trump to make him and his response look inadequate and uncaring. And she followed orders and did. She cried on cue up in front of the cameras and complained that help was coming too little and too late and that they were not getting supplies from mainland United States. Though she held this press conference in a massive building with pallets of supplies piled almost to the ceiling, the press backed her story up and gave her pleas 24/7 coverage. When mayors from other Puerto Rican cities and towns and the island's governor, Ricardo Rossello stepped in and exposed Cruz's claims as untrue; stating that President Trump and the feds were doing everything possible and the response was good, the cameras shut down making sure the public heard nary a word of that praise.

This is the other type of Fake News, the Fake News of omission to intentionally mislead the public by a corrupt and bias press. And they wonder why most Americans no longer trust them.

In point of fact, ships and planes filled with food, clean water, medical supplies and other needed items were immediately rushed to Puerto Rico and still are being sent. The military; as they always do is pouring resources in to help around the clock and have been doing so since the storm hit. Finally, the real story is getting out so the media has backed off their most recent attempts to make this president look heartless and cold. It's what they've been doing since last November's election and continue to do at every opportunity.

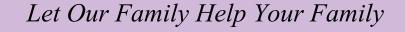
The other big story is of course the mass killings in Las Vegas. We've all seen the video footage of the carnage which is of course shocking and the hearts of most Americans go out to all those innocent victims. Most Americans feel this way but apparently not all. I'm sure most of our readers have been hearing and reading in disbelief, some of the social media posts by many deranged self proclaimed tolerant 'progressives'; that are actually happy about who was killed and wounded because of who they are. There was this gem, from a school teacher no less, who Tweeted that Country Music fans are a bunch of white Trump supporters and she hopes it was just Trumpsters 'who were killed. Then

of course there was the CBS Vice President and legal counsel Hayley Geftman – Gold who posted that she has no sympathy for the victims toward the victims have continued because Country Music concert goers are usually Republicans. She was fired for that remark.

Then there was the usual flood of remarks from others on the political left who take pleasure when there are mass shootings. The higher the body counts the better for their cause, because they feel and some publicly state that the more 'dead and wounded', the better chance Americans will turn against the

Second Amendment, which is their ultimate goal. A deluge of other hate filled social media statements with many of them being so vile that they cannot even be printed here.

People who think this way and make statements like these are the first to label everyone else as close-minded racists and intolerant haters. Yet with each passing day, it becomes more apparent to Americans just where the hatred lies and which side of the political divide harbors the most evil in their hearts.



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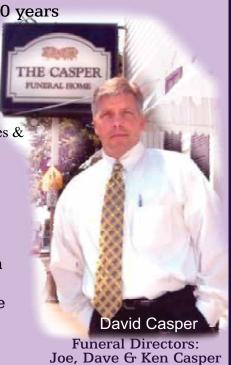
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#### **Window Into The State House**

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.

#### Michael Cohen's firsthand view of the Vegas carnage: 'It was like a war zone'

As it was, the Globe's Michael A. Cohen was apparently in Vegas over the weekend and he provides an account of his surreal trip down the strip as victims streamed past him in the opposite direction. "It was like a war zone," he recounts.

# A twofer: MIT's Rainer Weiss awarded Nobel Prize in Physics

A day after two Brandeis University professors were awarded the Nobel Prize in Medicine, the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences has awarded half of this year's Nobel Prize in Physics to Rainer Weiss, a professor emiritus at MIT, for his work on gravitational waves, the BBJ's Don Seiffert reports. A big congrats to Weiss and MIT.

## Meanwhile, Brandeis celebrates its own Nobel laureates

They're the pride of Brandeis University -- and of Massachusetts and America. As Don Seiffert at the BBJ reported, Michael Rosbash, a professor of biology at Brandeis, and Jeffrey C. Hall, professor emeritus of biology at Brandeis, were named two of three recipients of the Nobel Prize in Medicine on Monday. At Brandeis, news of the Nobel prize, the first ever awarded to a Brandeis faculty member, set off celebrations, with staff members popping bottles of champagne and hundreds of students and faculty members gathering to toast their now famous colleagues, reports Deirdre Fernandes at the Globe and Laura Gardner at BrandeisNow.

# Insurers agree to compromise bill to provide free birth control

This is big and it will play out later today at a legislative hearing on Beacon Hill. From the Globe's Stephanie Ebbert: "Massachusetts health insurers and reproductive rights advocates have negotiated a compromise bill that would protect free birth control coverage even if the Trump administration strikes that requirement from federal law, as expected. The Massachusetts Association of Health Plans, a coalition of 17 insurance providers, previously opposed the measure, saying it was broader — and more expensive — than necessary to ensure contraceptive access. But the organization has now signed on to compromise language, and officials intend to testify in favor of the bill

at a legislative hearing Tuesday."

### Facebook comments earn Brockton man demotion at VA

Stephen Pina can add his supervisory role at the Veterans Administration to the lengthy list of fallouts from his racially tinged Facebook comments about NFL anthem protests. Marc Larocque of the Enterprise reports that the agency plans to demote Pina and remove him from his management position overseeing more than 150 workers at a VA facility in Rhode Island. Pina, who also resigned from a seat on the city's Recreation Commission and quit his role as a football coach, has a chance to appeal the demotion before it becomes final. We're wondering if, or when, a First-Amendment lawsuit might be filed.

# And yet another one: Sterling EMT suspended for calling Pats players 'porch monkeys'

The NFL national-anthem controversy has taken its toll on yet continued on page 6

# Sen. Forry and Rep. Collins Call For Responsible Development



State Senator Linda
Dorcena Forry and
State Representative
Nick Collins recently
submitted a joint letter to
the Boston Planning and
Development Agency with
comments on the latest
Supplemental Impact Report
from the developers of
Seaport Square. In the letter,
they call for public ownership

of parks, accessible public facilities, and a public civic space, such as a library, like the original proposal included.

"Every square foot increase in retail, commercial, and office space represents a substantial value to the developers, and the question remains, how much of that value ought to be invested in the community?" wrote the pair of legislators, referring to the proponent's request for approval of an additional 1.4 million square feet of space, or a 21% increase in publicly created value.

How exactly would that value be reinvested in the community? The legislators hope to see "truly public civic space such as a public library." They also make a case for preservation and

protection of green space through transfer of ownership to the city or state. This model has been successfully demonstrated at A Street Park, and finances capital obligations through the development itself.

The lawmakers stated goal is "to support responsible development that will foster a true community" on the South Boston Waterfront, not an exclusive. private paradise for the ultra-rich. They have also recently written letters encouraging the addition of public facilities like a fire station or police station in the burgeoning area to ensure public safety for the residents.

Public comments on the Supplemental Information Report is open until October 30, 2017, and comments can be submitted by email to Michael.Rooney@Boston. Gov, or by mail to the BPDA, One City Hall Square, Boston, MA, 02201.

#### Letter to the Editor



Time to Play Ball

Now that the NFL players have had their say about kneeling during the National Anthem, they should get back to just playing football and stop disgracing our Flag, our fallen soldiers and our great service members who are helping to keep everyone safe. The fans are fed up and can and will stop watching football.

Billy O'Neill Jr. - South Boston

# Southie Says Good Bye To A Favorite Son

By Brian P. Wallace

Was in the fifth grade at Monsignor Patterson, and I usually walked home through the D Street project, but that day I had a couple of dollars on me, and a Pepsi and a devil dog didn't cost nearly that much, so I waited for the bus at B and Broadway. I stood in the heat not knowing that the bus ride would change my life that day.

I found a seat down the back and relished in the cool air that blew in from the open windows. Life was good for a young boy from Southie, who was dreaming of that cold Pepsi and devil dog. And then he got on the bus at D Street. The first thing I noticed about him was that he didn't pay and the bus driver didn't say anything to him. It was hard to tell how old he was, but I did notice that he had his shirt buttoned up to his neck like he was going to wear a necktie and forgot to put it on. He was also wearing a long sleeve shirt, and it was pretty warm out. It was obvious that other people knew him, but this was my very first encounter with Bob Richiell, also affectionately known as Bobby No No or Bobby Quarters.

He made his way towards me, and people were handing him money. I was fascinated. He had to entice some who wouldn't look at him as if ignoring him was going to make him go away. It wasn't. He would stand his ground, hand out.

"Come on get it up, come on get it up," he would say to the recalcitrant ones, who would not make eye contact with him. He just made it worse for them, as he stood his ground until the magic quarter appeared. Once he was satisfied, he would move on to the next row with the same demands. It was amazing to watch.

Since I hardly ever took the bus, it seemed everyone on the bus knew him except me. Boy, that would change. As F Street was called as the next stop, I got up and



made my way to get off. I squeezed by Bobby, who was still busy with the other passengers. He never said a word to me. That time.

Over the years I would see him everywhere. "Get it up," was his proud refrain. My induction day finally came about a year later, as I walked by him near the Southie Savings Bank and it shocked me. "Hey you," he called to me, "get it up, you owe me for the bus." Now that was at least a year since we shared that first bus ride. I stopped in my tracks. "I don't have any money," I said telling the truth. "Now you owe me twice," he said as he scoured the street for those people that he knew. "And no dimes," he called after me. That was Bobby.

Some people may have thought he was stupid. But, they were the stupid ones. He did frighten some people, but after a few encounters with Bobby, they got over it, maybe not all of them but most of them. He was bullied on occasion, but a lot of Southie people of all ages came to his rescue, and after awhile, the bullying lessened and then stopped. He had the run of the town, and he logged more miles in a day than I did in a month. He would be up Sully's, or little Broadway and big Broadway, in town, up to M Street Park or simply riding the bus.

We became friends soon after

that, when I interceded on Bobby's behalf as some kids whom I knew from the Club, were picking on him. As the kids left, I turned to Bobby expecting a thank you. I got the same refrain, "come on get it up." I did and never stopped, but I did see how people in Southie took care of him, and it made me happy and proud.

When I was running for Rep a long time ago, I had a fundraiser at the Lith Club. There was a pretty good crowd, and there was a line, as people were waiting to get in. The next day I was in the back room at my headquarters at 487 Broadway when I heard the unmistakable voice. "Where is he? Where's Wallace." Someone pointed out that I was in the back. He came right at me. "Come on Wallace, give me a buck." "A buck?" I asked. "Why a buck, what happened to a quarter?"

"Come on Wallace, I saw the crowd last night, give me a buck," I was laughing so hard I handed him the buck, and from that moment on he became "Bobby the Buck" to me. I had graduated, lucky me.

He was a character, but he was OUR character. He was Southie. He made our life different, as different as he was from us. He showed us that people could be different and that different was ok. Everyone knew him, and I always wondered how much money he actually made from those quarters and bucks. He hated nickels and dimes, but he loved South Boston, and we loved him back, and we will say goodbye to him on Friday, October 6th from 9am to Noon at Casper's Funeral Home. I wonder how many people will squeeze a final quarter into Bobby's casket. He would like that. Rest In Peace, my friend.

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#### Local Resident Recovering after Moakley Park Attack

**SOUTH BOSTON TODAY - By Staff** 

hat's going on at South Boston's Moakley Park and just how safe is it? The neighborhood is still reeling after learning of the vicious and brutal attack on local resident Michael Flaherty. It was on a recent Tuesday, September 26th, when Flaherty was walking with a friend through the park and was set upon by a group of attackers.

Mike and his friend had just

parted company and went their separate ways when his friend heard the commotion and ran back to see him being beaten and stomped upon by the group. When the attackers saw Flaherty's friend approach, they fled into the nearby housing development. The intervention of his friend may have been what saved Flaherty's life, the attack was so fierce.

Moakley Park has been the scene of other crimes; particularly the using and selling of illegal drugs of virtually every kind. This park is heavily utilized by many sports organizations which include some of South Boston's youth groups. It's a destination for athletic activities where families gather as spectators and participants. The drug dealing and certainly the attack on Michael Flaherty have some parents expressing concern about the safety of their children.

At this time, South Boston Today still has no description of the attackers. The police have launched a full investigation into the attack and ask that anyone having any information to please report it.

Michael Flaherty is still recovering from the severe injuries that he has suffered and reports say that it could be quite a long recovery at that. The entire community is hoping that it will be as quick as possible and complete. Time will tell. In the meantime, residents are hoping that there will be increased patrols in and around Moakley Park to better protect the public safety of everyone and to deter any and all illegal activity.

#### Window Into the State House continued from page 4

another public employee posting a racist rant on social media, this time a Sterling paramedic who allegedly called Pats players "porch monkeys" for kneeling last month during the anthem, reports Scott Croteau at MassLive. Sterling's fire chief suspended the paramedic, Linda Kimball, after receiving complaints about her Facebook post

# Senate Democrats to borrow a few ideas from governor on health-care cost controls

They never said they disliked all of Gov. Charlie Baker's proposals to curb health-care costs, specifically some of his ideas on curbing Medicaid spending. They merely said they needed more time to study them. And now, it seems, they'll be borrowing some, though not all,

of Baker's ideas, reports Bruce Mohl at CommonWealth. "We can't afford 6.4 percent increases overall in the MassHealth program," said Rosenberg. "Spending on MassHealth is crowding out spending and investments in others parts of the budget." Shira Schoenberg has more on Rosenberg's plans, details of which will be unveiled next month.

## Meanwhile, Baker frets about more health care crises to come

The latest Republican attempt to gut ObamaCare, and slash Medicaid funds to Massachusetts, may have failed. But now Gov. Charlie Baker is worried about something else that Congress might do: Nothing, as it relates to the broken Affordable Care Act and federal subsidies to states, reports the BBJ's Jessica Bartlett.

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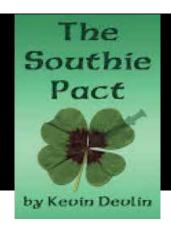
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#### **Book Signing and Sale**

The Southie Pact is about the damage that drugs do to ordinary people and to their community. How drugs ruin the lives of those who succumb to their unyielding grasp and the lives of those left behind to suffer the pain. It's also the story of hope and our faith in each other as we travel through life. It's the story of a group of South Boston teenagers who lose a friend to a drug overdose, and form a "Pact" not to let it happen again. But life isn't quite so obliging, as they sadly discover in subsequent years. The book is fiction, and although the setting is Southie, the drug epidemic has caused heartbreak and death in every community in the nation and is not just a Southie problem.

Kevin Devlin grew up in the Savin Hill section of Dorchester, a tight-knit Irish Catholic community. He married a Southie girl and moved there in 1981. He was a public servant for thirty-eight years. For the past two decades, he has written for a Southie newspaper, and he has officiated at basketball games for over forty-seven years. In 2015 Kevin's family moved to Milton.

Copies of The Southie Pact will be available for sale during the program.

# Saturday, October 14, 11 a.m.

South Boston Branch Library 646 East Broadway, South Boston, MA 617-268-0180

# City Hall Came To South Boston







































ayor Marty Walsh and his key agency heads set up shop at the Tynan Community School gymnasium. Over 250 residents stopped by during the two-hour session and one

could see several engaged residents having pointed dialogue with many administrators including the Mayor himself, Building Commissioner Buddy Christopher, BHA Director Bill McGonagle, BPDA liaison Mark McGonagle, Massport liaison Tom Butler Jr., Boston Police Department C-6, the BFD and EMS among others.

The National Parks Service had a booth, Animal Control, as did

developer Ralph Cox, who was busy explaining the Edison Plant Project. Winn Properties, newly designated by the Boston Housing Authority to redevelop the Mary continued on page 8

## The Wine Guy

# Russian (River) Collusion



By The Wine Guy

ith all the stories about Russia in the news for months now, I thought it might be good to look into one

story where there's something named, "Russia", definite "collusion", but no congressional hearings or network news coverage!

The Russian River Valley AVA, in California's Sonoma County, is a growing area to some of the best Cabernet Sauvignon, Pinot Noir and Chardonnay wines in world. Like the neighboring Napa Valley, it's "bathed" each evening by the "Pacific mist", which coats the grapes with cool Pacific fog that burns off late each morning. This allows a slow, full growth and a long hang time, which creates full, rich flavors in the grapes.

One of the best-known vineyards in this area is Picket Fence. Their 2014

Pinot Noir, Russian River Valley, (\$19.99), is a classic Sonoma Pinot; Winemaker Alison Crowe describes it as: "a wine with rich aromas of raspberry jam and brandy- macerated cherries. Its luxurious density and beautiful structure are hallmarks of this Russian River Pinot Noir. Round flavors and balanced tannins finish with nuances of vanilla and star anise."

Pinot Noir is one of the more versatile red wines as far as food goes, so you might want to try this one with game meats, sweetbreads or a lamb dish.

For more than 40 years, the Merry Edwards vineyards have been producing not only some of the best Pinot Noir from Northern California.

but some of the best in the world. Their Merry Edwards Pinot Noir, Olivet Lane, Russian River, 2014, (\$65.00), is savory and sublime; layers of rich fruit reveal themselves quickly. Over the course of an hour, each sip will have different notes and each note is delicious and memorable. A very special wine for special occasions. This wine would pair extremely well with Beef Wellington or Filet Mignon with a Bordelaise reduction.

DeLoach Vineyards, one of Sonoma's oldest, produces one of the best Zinfandels in the entire valley. Their 2014 Riebli Valley Zinfandel, Sonoma County, (\$34.99), has very concentrated

flavors of blackberry, espresso and licorice, with a strawberry currant finish. This wine drinks really well right now, but can lay down for further aging. It's a natural with a grilled veal chop or New York Strip steak.

Seafood lovers, we haven't forgotten you! The one white that's great all year round is Sauvignon Blanc and the Russian River has a long list of them. One that really typifies the region would be Selby Winery's 2016 Russian River Sauvignon Blanc, (\$21.99). Stainless steel-fermentation, as well as a touch of Semillon and Muscat. 3% and 2%, respectively, give this wine a crispness that shows concentrated melon, key lime and citrus notes, with a pleasant finish that will work well with any seafood dish.

So, Russia, definite collusion between the grapes and the winemakers, lots of evidence to be had and the only crime would be not to try any of these great wines!

Ask the Wine Guy – jdris8888@ gmail.com



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City Hall to SB continued from 7

Ellen McCormack Housing properties, was on hand to offer preliminary schematics as a visual preview. Beacon Communities is also gearing up for the next phase of Old Colony Housing.

This event showcased what the City of Boston has planned for South Boston including major upgrade of Moakley Park. With the Mayor's investment in the Arts, Create Boston asked for input from the community. Vision 2030, Green Boston and other initiatives were also presented.

The Open House allowed the residents of South Boston to connect a face to the department and make a contact, hoping that their concerns will actually get attention. Pizza always draws a crowd and it didn't last long. Congratulations to the Walsh Team for bringing City Hall to the people. Folks were saying that it should happen more often.

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Please be advised that the BPDA will be hosting a public meeting to discuss the Fourth Notice of Project Change and Second Amendment to Development Plan of PDA No. 69 at 63 Melcher Street, located within the Fort Point Channel District of South Boston, received from JSIP 63 Melcher, LLC on September 21st, 2017.

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Applications can be picked up in person or by e-mail from South Boston Neighborhood Development Corporation 273 "D" Street, South Boston, MA 02127

E-mail: 275oldcolonyave@sbndc.org (Applications cannot be sent prior October 14, 2017)

Please note the application distribution period is only for ten (10) consecutive days (six business days)

starting on October 14, 2017 and ending on October 23, 2017.

Households must include their full name and complete mailing address to receive an application.

\*Saturday- October 14, 2017 - 10:00 am - 2:00pm at 275 Old Colony Avenue – Note – this day only at the site\*

Monday - October 16, 2017 - 10:00am - 6:00pm

Tuesday - October 17, 2017 - 10:00am - 6:00pm

Wednesday - October 18, 2017 - 10:00am - 6:00pm

Thursday - October 19, 2017 - 10:00am - 7:00pm

Friday - October 20, 2017 - 10:00am - 6:00pm Monday - October 23, 2017 - 10:00am - 6:00pm

Deadline for completed applications to:

South Boston NDC - 273 "D" Street- South Boston, MA 02127

In Person by 6:00pm, October 30, 2017, or mailed and postmarked by that day.

Selection by lottery.

Asset, Use & Resale Restrictions apply. Minimum income limits apply. Preference for Boston Residents.

Preference for Households with at least one person per bedroom. Preference for First-Time Homebuyers.

For reasonable accommodations or more information call Michelle Zenga, South Boston NDC, 617-268-9610





# Julie's 5th Annual Friendraiser

ver 200 people gathered last Thursday, 9/28, to celebrate and support Julie's Family Learning Program at Capo's Supper Club. It was Julie's first event in the Supper Club and guests were raving about the food and the ambience. Julie's Director of Development, Carrie Coughlin, says "The owner of Lincoln and Capo have been very good to Julie's. They hosted our first two events at no cost to Julie's and provided all the drink tickets and the venue for us the past three years. This is our 5th Friend-raiser and

we are grateful for the support from the community at this event."

Julie's would like to thank their Friend-raiser Committee for all their efforts to make the event a success, Shannon Caulfield, Arleen Cavanaugh, Christina Costello, Laine Crowe, Maureen Dahill, Kristen Dellaporta, Rena Gyftopoulos, Charles King, Casey Shaughnessy, Marcella Sliney, Ruth Steel, and Mary Beth Sweeney. Please see Julie's Facebook page for a listing of the evening's many sponsors.

Julie's Executive Director, Bob Monahan, told the crowd that night "Before each event, we say, let's make this event the best ever. I can tell you looking out at the crowd tonight that this has been the best ever – we raised more money than in previous years, before we even walked in the door. This event raises awareness of what we do, and, helps us to tell more people our story. We are grateful to all of you for spreading the word about Julie's."

Please save the date for Julie's next event, the Annual Angel Award on 12/7/17 at Venezia in Dorchester.











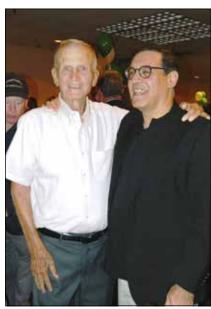


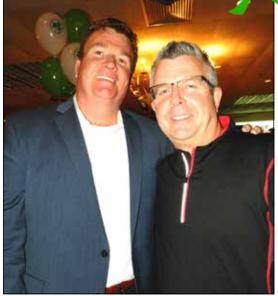




# LOVE YOU HARRY



























# TO all of our Friends,

**Family and Organizations** for your Generous Support of the South Boston Special Kids and Young Adults Corp.

#### A Great night honoring a Great man!!

Our sponsors:

Adam Sanderson American Sweepers Anthony Gilardi and Family **Beauty Bar** Billy Higgins Insurance and Family Boston Excavating **Brack Tours** Brian Miller and Family BTU - Carson Place Carl Hosea Helping Hands Foundation

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State Auditor Suzanne Bump Touchie's Shamrock Pub

Special Thank you to Robert Pacitti and the Committee for organizing such a wonderful event!







# The Best Fall Foliage: Where and When to Go in 2017

he passing of summer sometimes brings a bit of sadness to people, who really enjoy spending their free time outdoors. We tend to get used to the easy living and all those activities that the warm months encourage. To many, the good thing is that sadness doesn't last all that long, because once we roll into October, New England explodes into a kaleidoscope of magnificent colors, as the leaves turn into one of nature's wonders. The bonus is that we still have a good dose of nice weather. That's right, it's fall foliage time and 'leaf peepers' are in their glory.

2017 seems to be one of those rare years that come around every so often, where an unusually warm September tends to delay the peak foliage in New England. It's something that weather experts have been mentioning recently. But don't worry leaf lovers, because, as the saying goes, "better late than never."

The Northeastern part of the United States is among the most picturesque areas in the world this time of year. When peak foliage hits, and it comes in waves, enjoying one of the season's best features is anywhere from a 20-minute drive to the edge of the Blue Hills, just outside of Boston, to a weekend getaway to the Maine Wilderness - whatever makes you happy.

While some have their favorite spots to view autumn's splendor, others are always looking for suggestions as to where they can see the best colors and really get into the spirit. For those of you who DO want some suggestions, South Boston Today might be able to help. The following locations are said to be some of the best places to see the brightest colors of the season.

Baxter State Forest, Maine: If you like long drives into some of north east's true wilderness, and it's soon you want to make the trip, Baxter State Forest in the state of Maine is one of the finest locales around for early leaf watching. It's a long drive; between 5 and 7 hours; not something you'd want to try on a day trip. This requires at least two days; preferably a full weekend or more. There are many package deals and bus trips that will make it a great vacation destination. This is also a good place to view wildlife as the area is teeming with moose, deer and black bears. It's a great place to watch birds as the eagle and hawk populations there are thriving. And the scenery is breathtaking. Thick forests, rivers and lakes fill hundreds of square miles with beauty. And the colors; in early October are incredible. The area peaks early. Now is the time to go.

White Mountains, New Hampshire: As the calendar pushes deeper into October, New Hampshire's White Mountains come alive with brilliant red, orange and yellow trees looking almost like a sunburst. Many believe this area is by far the best in the entire United States for viewing foliage. This is a trip that can be made in just 3 hours to get the best effect. The ride up along Rt. 93 will show some great color once you get into the higher elevations. But if you want to see

the White Mountain's color at itsabsolute best, take some of the smaller country roads and really be impressed. The small towns along the way will often have Fall Festivals to add to the experience and this is an area too where the odds of seeing deer and other wildlife are very good. The best time for foliage viewing in the White Mountain's area is usually around the Columbus Day weekend. And though in most years, this coming holiday weekend is at its peak and getting ready to fade, it should hold those colors longer than usual this season because of the delay in those cold over nights.

Woodstock, Vermont: Once again, peak viewing should actually begin this Columbus Day weekend but continue a bit longer this year. Here the Billings Farm and Museum gives an added attraction. You not only get to see the autumn leaves in all their glory but you get a taste of the Revolutionary War era culture that still holds on here. Old farm houses and country stores make you feel like you're visiting a bygone era. A drive through the forest lined roads leading to and from Woodstock can put you in awe of nature and make you forget the fast pace of the city while you're there. And yes, here too, wildlife is abundant but you also get to see many horse and dairy farms as well.

Berkshire Mountains, Western Massachusetts: You don't have to travel north to see the sights of the season. A trip west, here in the Bay State will bring all the colors and festive autumn feel as the northern

states do. The drive or bus trip a few hours along Route 2 heading west in mid to late October is absolutely beautiful. The farther west you go the higher the elevation becomes until you are in the Berkshire Mountains with all its scenic views. If you travel far enough you'll come to the Mohawk Trail area known worldwide as a destination to many tourists looking for that special fall atmosphere with all its history even before the American Revolution. This is an area rich in farmland and dotted with lakes and ponds. The apple picking is excellent here. Orchards are everywhere and the sweet aroma from those apples will make you want to bite into one.

Blue Hills, Canton/Milton, MA: And finally, if you want to get to see the fall foliage but really don't want to spend too much time getting to where the peak sights are, as we mentioned early on, there is always the Blue Hills, just a 20-minute trip from Boston. The colors in the Blue Hills peak late in the season, so when other more distant areas have become past peak and faded, the Blue Hills, especially along Chicatawbut Rd. are still bright and fresh. In fact, some years you can still see great foliage in the Blue Hills as late as Halloween and beyond.

Well, there you have it folks. South Boston Today's picks for fall foliage viewing in 2017 for those who love being outdoors and seeing Mother Nature at her best this time of year. We hope these tips are helpful and that if you go, you have a great time. Oh, and be sure to bring a camera.

# **Celebrating Christopher Columbus**

By Kevin Devlin

n October 12, 1492, Christopher Columbus and his crews on the ships of La Santa Maria de la Inmaculada Concepcion, the Santa Clara, later nicknamed La Nina, and La Pinta, landed on the shores of the America's. As he ventured in his tiny ships across the vast Atlantic Ocean in search of Cathay (China), India, and the fabled gold and spice-islands of Asia, Columbus figured he literally had clear sailing. He didn't realize the America's stood in his path, two mighty continents unknown to the Old World, soon to be ordained the New World. Although there is controversy as to where Columbus first landed, it is widely believed it was the island that he named San Salvador and claimed for Spain.

Columbus was born in the Republic of Genoa in Italy circa 1451 and was the son of a weaver. His initial trip into the Atlantic Ocean almost cost him dearly, when the commercial vessel he was sailing on was ransacked and burnt by French privateers. He was forced to swim ashore to Portugal and luckily survived. Unshaken by this setback, and always eager for new adventures, Columbus

continued on with his seafaring journeys. He had the spirit of a crusader, and simultaneously "...the investigating nature of a modern man of science."

With the Muslim World dominating the trade routes in the Middle East, Columbus began searching for a new sea route to Cathay and India. In 1486, Columbus detailed his ambitious plan to sail west across the Atlantic Ocean, to the Portuguese king, and to those sitting on the seats of power in Venice and Genoa. His overtures were summarily rejected but he remained undeterred in his determination to succeed. Then he approached Queen Isabella of Castille and Ferdinand of Aragon, the reigning monarchs of Spain. At first they doubted the viability of such an enterprise but when news arrived that the Spanish army had captured the last Muslim fortress in Granada in January of 1492, they acquiesced to finance his expedition. The three now-famous ships left Spain in August of 1492. And the rest is history.

Columbus' imagination, undaunted vision, steadfastness, and defined purpose, proved him in good stead as his exploits ushered in a new era of exploration and discovery. Throughout the Old World, he sparked a fire in everyone's heart, a fire which was left blazing, unattended, inspiring a new thirst for new



adventures. The great philosopher, George Santayana, succinctly wrote that Columbus "...gave the world another world."

On Monday, October 9, we will celebrate the holiday of this adventurous Italian explorer and navigator who discovered the New World and changed history thereafter.

#### BPS Busing Meets High Tech Continued from front page

management software and services, as well as DataKind, a nonprofit devoted to helping connect institutions with pro-bono support. The focus was to improve the efficiency of the BPS bus system, reduce the number of stops, cut transportation costs and reduce bus traffic on busy city streets.

Beginning in August 2016, SAS analysts collected a huge amount of data, including student information such as grades, neighborhoods, longitude/latitude coordinates of their home addresses, current stop assignments and the schools they are attending; bus stop information such as longitude/latitude coordinates; school information such as location and address, longitude/latitude coordinates and opening-bell times; and bus information such as the types and capacities of buses.

They analyzed the student/stop assignments based on various settings, such as maximum walking distance by grades, maximum walking distance by neighborhoods and maximum number of students per stop. BPS used these results to determine which settings would work best for them. DataKind, which focuses on "data-driven projects for social impact," assisted in sourcing

and setting up the project for SAS.

SAS analytics' research showed that the district could operate more efficiently and cost-effectively by reducing the number of bus stops anywhere from 20 percent to 50 percent. The analysis also allowed BPS to think differently about stop assignments.

Previously, students were assigned to a stop within a mile of their homes. Applying analytics, SAS was able to create more walk-to-stop maximums for each student by factoring in variables such as the safety of that student's neighborhood. This approach, combined with a reduction in the number of bus stops, allowed BPS to deliver a simpler, more effective transportation system for its students.

BPS organized the Transportation Challenge, which ran from April 1 to mid-July this year. Data scientists, optimization experts and mathematicians from such places as Google, Microsoft, Uber, Harvard, Georgia Tech and MIT participated in the challenge. The team from MIT won. The purpose was to generate efficient solutions that could help to reduce BPS's transportation budget. Their work helped BPS eliminate 50 bus routes this year and realize \$3 million to \$5 million in savings from the effort. Excerpts reprinted from Edscoop.com

#### Notre Dame Ed. Center Buys Building at 200 Old Colony Avenue

otre Dame Education
Center has purchased the building it has been renting at 200 Old Colony Avenue in South Boston. The building has been home to NDEC for the past nine years.

The sale was completed in August, said Mary Rose Durante, Esq., NDEC's Executive Director and CEO. "We've always had roots in South Boston, and now we have a permanent home," she added. "The purchase was a great way to cap off our 25th anniversary year."

Following the tradition of Cardinal Cushing Central High School, NDEC was founded in 1992 and was located at 50 West Broadway in South Boston until 2008. "Over the past 25 years, NDEC has furthered the exceptional educational standards rooted in the history and mission of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur," said NDEC Program Director Paula Jurigian. "We are looking forward to continuing that tradition."

South Boston resident and

longtime NDEC Board member Charles R. Shediac said, "The purchase of the building housing the Center will ensure that adults and young adults in the South Boston community and beyond will continue to receive high quality education and support services for years to come."

Each year NDEC welcomes more than 700 adult learners and provides quality, goal-oriented instruction through its Adult Education Services Department and Youth Education Services Department. Four programs serve students in the areas of Literacy and Academic Achievement, College and Career Pathways, High School Diploma Program, and HiSET (high school equivalency credential) and Postsecondary Preparation. A variety of individualized supports complements these programs.

Visit the NDEC website at http:// www.ndecboston.org. You can also follow the Center on Facebook at http://www.notre-dame-education-center-inc and on Twitter @ndecboston.



# **SOUTH BOSTON YOUTH SOCCER**

annot believe we are at week four. Only five more weeks left. Mother Nature was not do kind on Saturday but she certainly worked her magic and gave us a great day on Sunday.

Just a couple of reminders before we begin a recap of the games.

COACHES: Remember it is important to turn in score sheets. If you would rather send me an email with the information, you can send it to soccernana54@gmail.com if you do not pass one in there will not be any write up for your team and that is not fair to the children who show up week after week or the Sponsors. Remember all score sheets must be turned in by Monday afternoon at 1 p.m. at the latest. Also please fill all score sheets out correctly.

If a coach is having a parent help them out every week, then that person must fill out a CORI form.

For the coaches who have the last game in the Under 8 Division on Sunday, please remember to put the equipment away. Also make sure there is no parent or children (that are not playing the game) near the nets during the game. It is a distraction for the goalie.

**PARENTS:** Remember all children MUST wear shin guards. If your child DOES NOT wear them, they CANNOT play. No hats, or jewelry can be worn while playing – this is for

the safety of the children.

NO SMOKING IN THE STADIUM. IF YOU FEEL YOU NEED TO HAVE A CIGARETTE FOR THE HOUR YOU ARE THERE, YOU NEED TO BE AWAY FROM THE FIELD.

Also, if you have any problems at the field, please see one of the officers of the league and we will take care of all concerns immediately. All parents should be on one side of the field and the players on the opposite side.

**SNACK BAR:** Please patronize the snack bar. All monies that are brought in at the snack bar go right back to the local sports teams that use the park, which helps defray some of the expenses to the league.

We also would like to take this time to thank our sponsors and ask that you patronize them. Because of their generosity we get to keep this league going.

#### **UNDER 4 DIVISION:**

around great game.

#### SULLIVANS GOLDFISH

The team sponsored by Sullivan's beat out their opponent with Greyson Myers scoring a hattrick and Kaeden Douglas scoring two goals. Ellie McCollum, Carys Donovan, Olivia Parker, John Chatfield and Emma Goggin played an all

The Goldfish sponsored by the Boston Police Athletic League played an awesome game. Mason Gonzalez scored a pair of goals and Joshua Donohue scored a single goal. Brayden Joyce, Eli Margalit, Max Nieves, A.J. Coveney, Adrianna Kelledy and Kailyn Weeks did a super job bringing the ball up and down the field.

At the time of print no score sheets were available for the teams sponsored by, Congressman Stephen Lynch, Massport, Councilor Bill Linehan, South Boston Today, Lovey's League and Matthew Coyne Club.

#### **UNDER 6 DIVISION:**

No score sheets were available City Councilor Mike Flaherty, Boston Firefighters Credit Union, Massport, East Boston Saving Bank, J. F. O'Brien & Sons, Boston Home Inspectors, Joe Pace & Sons and Billy Flaherty's Gang.

#### **UNDER 8 DIVISION:**

No score sheets were available for the teams sponsored by Southie's Own, Michel J; Perkins Post A.L. #67, Massport, South Boston Dental Associates, Abacus Builders and the Jim Cahill Club.

#### **UNDER 10 DIVISION:**

No score sheets were available for the teams sponsored by Iron Workers Local #7, Stapleton Florist, Massport and Yankee Bus Line.

#### **UNDER 12 DIVISION:**

No score sheets were available for the teams sponsored by Deco Leasing, Massport, Metro Energy and John Hancock Insurance.



ayor Martin J. Walsh has announced that the annual Fall Pumpkin Float will be held at the Boston Common Frog Pond on Friday, October 20, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Hundreds of illuminated jack-o'-lanterns will be floated on the water accompanied by spooky family activities.

Attendees are asked to bring 8-inch or smaller carved pumpkins that will be lit and then floated on

#### **MAYOR'S FALL PUMPKIN FLOAT OCTOBER 20**

the Frog Pond for a dramatic early evening display. In addition, attendees are invited to view creatively carved and decorated jack-o'-lanterns from various local sports teams and organizations. Adults and children are encouraged to wear Halloween costumes and participate in a wide range of fun activities. Children are invited to decorate luminary bags which will be displayed and illuminated along the edge of the Frog Pond. Test your courage and problem-solving skills in our haunted corn maze.

The Fall Pumpkin Float is presented by the Boston Parks and Recre-

ation Department in partnership with the Skating Club of Boston. Key sponsors are Xfinity, Capital One Café, and Lantana Hummus. Media sponsors are the Boston Herald and Magic 106.7. Additional support is provided by HP Hood LLC, the Floating Hospital for Children at Tufts Medical Center, DAVIDsTEA, and Boston Cares.

This free family-friendly event will also include a roving magician, glow-in-the-dark games, a video game truck, children's crafts, games and giveaways by Magic 106.7, and scarily delicious snacks and refreshments provided by Capital One

Café, Lantana Hummus, HP Hood LLC, and DAVIDsTEA.

A monster mash of science activities presented by the Parks Department's ParkSCIENCE program will include Science on the Street, the Massachusetts Horticulture Society, giant bubbles with the "Bubble Guy" Jim Dichter, and Halloween giveaways. All pumpkins will be donated to The Trustees of Reservations after the event for composting. For more information, please call the Boston Parks and Recreation Department at (617) 635-4505 or visit www.facebook.com/bostonparksdepartment or www.boston.gov/parks.



# SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS (+1.5) over Indianapolis Colts

-The 49ers are one of four winless teams in the NFL. But other than their first game — a 23-3 loss to Carolina they've lost each of their last three by three points or less. The 1-3 Colts are closer to being in San Fran's class than any of the teams the 49ers have played thus far. And their schedules have been eerily similar. The Colts' only win came against the Cleveland Browns, but, like the 49ers, they also lost to the Cardinals in overtime, and got beat by the Seahawks and Rams. Unlike San Francisco, Indy got whooped by Seattle and LA. Most recently, the Colts lost to the Seahawks 46-18 on Sunday night. Regardless, I just think the 49ers are ready for their first win. They've come so close in their last three games, and even though this one will be in Indianapolis, I'm taking San Fran to finally get in the win column.

# PHILADELPHIA EAGLES (-6.5) over Arizona Cardinals

-Arizona's offense just hasn't looked the same since losing running back David Johnson in Week 1 to a wrist injury. Johnson is out until at least December, so the Cardinals are going to have to find a way to improve upon their league-worst 57 rush yards per game. Unfortunately, for the Cards, this isn't the best matchup to try and get things going on the ground. The Eagles are the secondbest run defense in the league, allowing just 70.8 rush yards per game. You can throw on Philly, as its 285 pass-yards allowed per game ranks third-worst in the NFL. At 2-2, Arizona has lost its only two games that were played against quarterbacks who can make big plays: Matthew Stafford and Dak Prescott. Both of the Cardinals' wins came in overtime. against the Colts and 49ers, who have a combined record of 1-7. With this game being in Philadelphia, and the Eagles off to a hot start at 3-1, I'll take Carson Wentz over Carson Palmer by a touchdown on Sunday.

#### DETROIT LIONS (-3) over Carolina Panthers

-This is the only game of the week between two 3-1 teams. Detroit's only loss came at home in Week 3 to the Atlanta Falcons. Carolina's only loss came at home in Week 3 to the New Orleans Saints. This one might just come down to home field advantage. So with the game in Detroit, I'm taking the Lions. If the Panthers won, it would be their second straight road win, after Cam Newton found his mojo by defeating the Patriots on Sunday in New England. Carolina might be

3-1 and tied for first place in the NFC South with Atlanta, but it hasn't been pretty. The Panthers average just 19.5 points per game through four games. They also turn the ball over, something the Lions don't do. Seeing that Detroit leads the league in takeaways, I expect the Lions to force a few turnovers in their own building and continue to look like one of the best teams in the NFC. Detroit by 10.

#### LOS ANGELES RAMS (-1.5) over Seattle Seahawks

-I can't believe I'm saying this. But I believe in the Rams. I believe they are for real. At 3-1, they have sole possession of first place in the NFC West, and they're coming off a 35-30 win over the Cowboys in Dallas. Led by Jared Goff and Todd Gurley, LA is the highest scoring offense in football, averaging 35.5 points per game. The most impressive stat, to me, is that Goff has only thrown one interception, while throwing for over 1,000 yards and seven touchdowns through Week 4. The Rams' only loss came to the Washington Redskins in Week 2, but if you've watched Washington this season, then you know that's not an easy team to play. Seattle is 2-2, having lost to Green Bay and Tennessee. For all the talk about the Seahawks' defense. they can't seem to stop the run this seaThis week,
Danny gave
"Pic's Picks"
for Week 5 in
the NFL:

son, allowing 134 rush yards per game. Carlos Hyde ran for 124 yards against Seattle in Week 2, and DeMarco Murray ran for 115 yards against Seattle in Week 3. Gurley, who is second in the NFL averaging 90.5 yards per game, will be an even tougher matchup for the Seahawks than any running back they've faced so far this year. Los Angeles has a chance to officially put its stamp on the NFC West against a Seattle team that is certainly beatable. The only question is whether or not the Rams' fans will show up for it. LA by a field goal.

#### BALTIMORE RAVENS (+2.5) over Oakland Raiders

-If Derek Carr was healthy, the Raiders would probably be a seven-point favorite in this one. Carr fractured his back against Denver in Week 4, so it will be EJ Manuel under center for Oakland. Both the Raiders and Ravens are 2-2, but because I don't trust Manuel against a Baltimore defense that leads the league in interceptions with nine, I can't possibly expect Oakland to roll over the Ravens like they probably would if Carr was healthy. Give me Baltimore with the upset on the West Coast.

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The Playwright

658 East Broadwau

South Boston, MA 02127

617-269-2537



425 West Broadway Boston, MA 02127 617-765-8636



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



Lucky's Lounge 355 Congress Street Boston, MA 02210 617-357-LUCK



Jerry Remy's Seaport 250 Northern Avenue Boston, MA 02210 617-856-7369



Atlantic Beer Garden 146 Seaport Boulevard Boston, MA 02210 617-357-8000



**Boston Beer Garden** 732 East Broadway South Boston, MA 02127 617-269-0990





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