

Mayor Walsh Announces Education Finance Reform Legislation

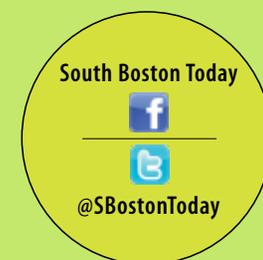
Mayor Martin J. Walsh announced today that he will file comprehensive education finance reform legislation at the State House that aims to invest equitably in public education and expand access to high-quality education for students of all ages.

“I believe deeply in public education and I will continue to fight for more resources for our students and our schools,” Mayor Walsh said. “We are working every day to close oppor-

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EDITORIAL

Our Inauguration Shows World How It's Done

The United States Presidential Inauguration is a majestic event that celebrates the peaceful transition of power. It is something to be proud of and even cherished. It is also something that people in many nations around the world envy and only wish they could experience the same way that American citizens can do, every four years. In some countries,

the only changing of the political guard comes in the form of violent upheaval, often with tanks rolling in to enforce the will of the newest tyrannical dictator.

The Inauguration of a new US president is something to celebrate as a nation. It is a time to heal the rifts that usually follow a hard fought election. It presents an opportunity to start fresh with all political sides giving unity a try – at

least initially. As the new administration settles in, it should be given a chance to show the nation what it can do. There will be plenty of time to highlight what will most likely be legitimate disagreements on the issues over the next four years.

America will now have a new president and his name is Donald Trump. We wish him well and pray for his success for the sake of our great country.



“To the Inauguration we come every time, Republicans and Democrats together because of this great country” - John Barrasso

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Depicting Cops as Pigs was wrong in the 60's and still is today

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY
John Ciccone

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

It was amazing watching the activity taking place in the Halls of Congress last week. A member of the Congressional Black Caucus put up, in a public area of the building, not his own office, but a painting depicting police officers as pigs. That's right - pigs wearing police uniforms were attacking people in this painting. As the painting continued to hang on the wall, a furious Republican congressman had had enough and removed it, returning it to the office of the congressman who had put it on the wall. That congressman in turn put it back up and it was removed again soon after by the Republican.

And so it continued. The African American congressman would put it back up, now joined by other caucus members and some white Democrats, only to be removed again by what was now a growing number of Republicans.

It was getting tense. The Republicans and some moderate to Conservative Democrats found this painting offensive, as did an overwhelming majority of Americans, including minorities. But, the Congressional Black Caucus said they didn't care and that just because the painting offended others, they still had every right to put it on display claiming freedom of speech and reminding all that there was a First Amendment in America. But it should be noted that those, who insisted that the offensive painting remain, were some of the exact same people who demanded that the Confederate Flag and every Confederate Memorial and statue anywhere be removed from all public locations across the country - because it was offensive. It seems there are some in this country who believe that the First Amendment works only for them. The Confederate

Flags are gone from the public buildings in Washington and so too is that hideous, disrespectful painting.

In response to last week's column where Hollywood performers who like to lecture the rest of America about the way we live, think and especially about how to vote were ridiculed, one reader asked if calling them hypocrites wasn't a bit too harsh. I don't think so and the reasoning behind it can be summed up in the words of one of Hollywood's own, actor James Woods, who is pretty disgusted with his Tinsel Town Colleagues. Woods said the following about the bloviating Hollywood scolds: "They try to take away my guns and your guns, but surround themselves with armed security to protect themselves. They lament violence in America, but glorify it in their films. They preach to us about protecting the environment, as

they fly around in their pollution spewing private jets. They worship diversity, but only those who share their naïve views are welcomed and accepted. And they attack even the mention of securing our border by building a wall, but do so from their gated communities". This nails it, so no, calling them hypocrites isn't harsh at all.

And for this week, I'll close on a personal note. On behalf of myself and my family I want to thank those of you, and there were so many of you, who offered condolences, support and soothing words of kindness regarding the passing of our mother Teresa Ciccone. She was our guiding light and to see how much she was loved by so many meant a lot to all of us.

I also want to recognize and thank the wonderful staff at the Marian

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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.

Business groups blast Baker's cap-and-penalize health proposal

They're normally supportive of the Republican governor, but not this time. From the Retailers Association of Massachusetts to the Associated Industries of Massachusetts, business groups were blasting away yesterday at Gov. Charlie Baker's proposal to slap a \$2,000 per-employee fine on firms that don't provide health-care coverage for workers and to implement a price-control cap on how much health providers charge for services, according to reports at the BBJ and Eagle-Tribune and Boston Globe. The \$2,000 penalty especially irked business officials, some of whom

dared to call it a flat-out tax increase. A tax increase? Nah, it's only a \$300 million "assessment."

Walsh zeros in on education funding

In his State of the City address last night, Mayor Marty Walsh, now facing a re-election fight with City Councilor Tito Jackson, touted his record on education, pushed for a new funding stream for universal pre-kindergarten, called for changing the funding formulas for charter school reimbursements and other goodies, according to reports at the Globe and at the Herald. He did talk about other non-school issues, but education is emerging as one of his major campaign themes to counter Jackson's haves-versus-

haves-not strategy.

Tito seeks Deval's help in taking on Marty

As Mayor Walsh basked in the limelight last night, his mayoral opponent divulged he's been working to secure the support and endorsement from a certain key individual. From the Herald: "City Councilor Tito Jackson is calling on Deval Patrick for help in his attempt to dethrone Mayor Martin J. Walsh, but the former governor might have bigger ambitions that will keep him out of the fray." Not even Tito, who used to work for Patrick at the State House, sounds optimistic about Patrick jumping into the fray. "I think he's a little busy right now," said Jackson.

So how does Walsh's salary stack up with other U.S. mayors?

The BBJ's Craig Douglas crunched the numbers and found that Boston Mayor Marty Walsh is tied with Seattle's mayor as the 11th highest paid mayor in the U.S. One can look at Walsh's \$175,000 salary two ways: The pay is out of whack compared to other similar-size cities or the pay is in line with other high-cost cities. Fyi: The top five mayors are in San Francisco (\$289,000), Los Angeles (\$238,000), Houston (\$235,000), New York (\$225,000) and Philadelphia (\$218,000).

Unions and community groups push for workplace-safety bills

From SHNS's Colin Young at the Worcester Business Journal: "Labor unions and community groups fanned out across the State House on Tuesday to push for bills that constitute a 'healthy workplace legislative agenda' they said will make workplaces safer for all employees." The groups plan to focus on the bills that came up short last session – one in which all public employees would be covered by safety measures that

meet federal Occupational Safety and Health Act standards and another that would expand the scope of workplace disfigurement injuries covered under workers' compensation policies.

Critics: Lobbying rules could have stalled Grand Prix before it crashed

Strict new rules on lobbying at City Hall could have steered the city around the time and expense wasted on the ill-fated Boston Grand Prix race, critics of the fiasco told a City Council hearing into the proposed regulations, Andrew Ryan of the Globe reports. Rules under consideration by the council requiring disclosure of lobbyist ties would have meant the proposal for the South Boston race would have become public sooner, leading in turn to better policy decisions, testified Felicity Lingle, co-chairwoman of the Coalition Against IndyCar Boston.

Mass. smokers pay the price

A new study says cigarette smokers in Massachusetts face the second-highest costs associated with the habit, doling out an average of \$43,000 a year on butts and related health and societal costs, Lindsay Kalter of the Herald reports. Only New Yorkers who light up face higher costs, a study from WalltHub estimates.

Baby Boom boomerang: Immigrants needed to fill jobs of retiring workers

Future growth of the Massachusetts economy will require a constant influx of new workers to replace retiring Baby Boomers, experts told the New England Economic Partnership during an event at the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston on Tuesday, Fred Thys of WBUR reports. As a result, changes in federal immigration policy could have far-reaching economic implications for Massachusetts, said Northeastern University economist Alan Clayton-Matthews.

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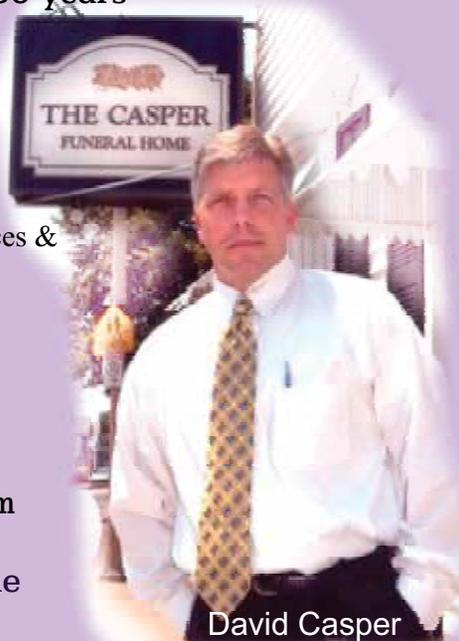
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Bayside Expo Exposed

As reported in last week's edition of SBT, negotiations have been quietly taking place among the various entities and property owners with an interest in the future of the former site of the Bayside Expo Center, now owned by UMass Boston. The principal interest is that of Robert Kraft and the MLS Soccer franchise, New England Revolution, which is seeking to relocate its soccer stadium to a permanent location in or near Boston.

Apparently, UMass System President Marty Meehan, Governor Charlie Baker and Mayor Marty Walsh have been encouraging Mr. Kraft to pursue the Bayside site. Other known stakeholders are Santander Bank, the Boston Teachers Union, the Corcoran Jennison Companies, Columbia Point, B.C.

High and St. Christophers. and UMass Boston.

While most of the press refers to the site as affecting the Dorchester community, including obviously, Columbia Point, it arguably will have an impact on South Boston as well. Elected officials have weighed in on the matter focusing much of their concern on the public and community process.

Congressman Stephen Lynch has been on record calling a soccer stadium 'a bad idea'.

Senator Linda Dorcena Forry stated, "I am disappointed with the University of Massachusetts and the City of Boston's behind-closed-door discussion for a large-scale development that would have serious impact on residents and neighbors. Dorchester residents deserve a transparent process.

This is not good business and not good government."

Representative Nick Collins added, "We have one shot to get this right and we need to have an open, public process that considers what's best for UMass, the neighbors and area businesses, as well as the City of Boston. I stand with my fellow elected leaders in calling for transparency with thoughtful planning, as we consider next steps."

Given the fact that there was a three year long, focused and time consuming Columbia Point master plan process that set forth 'guiding principles' that envisioned Bayside as a mixed-use development that has new retail, residential, and office uses, and an expanded hotel, they now seem skeptical of the commitment of

those involved to factor in all of that work product. The plan also referenced open space use and mid-size development, among other suggested uses.

Financial considerations of the University are a driving force in the soccer stadium option. UMass Boston is fast becoming a significant enterprise, both academically and economically. Its 'Just Imagine' Campaign is bold and progressive touting itself as a 'research university with a teaching soul'. Despite all of this, limited job opportunities for area residents and local services providers raise questions about the University's outreach in this regard. Expansion is certainly welcomed, but the benefits promised over time seem to have fallen short, in the opinion of some who have had experience with its seeming insularity, when it comes to people outside of its peninsula domain.

FORRY STATEMENT ON UMASS PLAN AT BAYSIDE



my constituents. Acting in secret and without bringing members of the community and their elected representatives to the table, until backroom deals come to light through stories in the media, is wholly unacceptable.

As elected officials and public employees, including President Meehan and the University of Massachusetts System, we are accountable to the taxpayers. The UMass Building Authority's enabling act exempts the University from local zoning and municipal approvals; from open bidding laws; as well as exemption from paying taxes on their land.

This is against the public's interests. I am a true believer in public and private partnerships, but I am also a strong advocate for transparent government and process. State agencies acting with impunity, hand-picking a singular entity to develop a public site is wrong. I expect the University of Massachusetts, our public university, to open up the process to members of the Dorchester community and have an open bidding process for this development.

I am disappointed with the University of Massachusetts and the City of Boston's behind-closed-door discussion for a large-scale development – which would have serious impact on residents and neighbors. Dorchester residents deserve a transparent process. This is not good business and not good government.

Columbia Point is an important area in my district, with the potential for strong economic and residential growth. As their State Senator, I am prepared to work with my colleagues to take legislative action to protect the best interests of the public and

STATEMENT OF REP. NICK COLLINS ON THE BAYSIDE EXPO CENTER SITE IN DORCHESTER



"The Bayside Expo Center property is the gateway to Dorchester and is pivotal to the vitality of Columbia Point and the city as a whole. A thorough community review involving all stakeholders is necessary to ensure that this valuable public asset is developed responsibly to maximize economic and social benefits.

We have one shot to get this right and we need to have an open, public process that considers what's best for UMass, the neighbors and area businesses, as well as the City of Boston.

I stand with my fellow elected leaders in calling for transparency with thoughtful planning, as we consider next steps."



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THE NEW ENGLAND COUNCIL

U.S. Representative Stephen Lynch Addresses the New England Council

U.S. Representative Stephen Lynch (D-MA) recently spoke to members of The New England Council at a Capital Conversations Breakfast in Washington, DC. The New England Council--the nation's oldest regional business association--regularly hosts members of the New England Congressional delegation at Capital Conversations breakfasts in our nation's capital.

At the event, which was hosted by Boston-based public affairs firm O'Neill & Associates at their Capitol Hill office, Congressman

Lynch discussed the outcome of the 2016 presidential election with Council members in attendance. The Congressman also shared his insights on the challenges facing the New England region and discussed a variety of issues that are likely to come before the 115th Congress in 2017.

Congressman Lynch is pictured here (center) with former South Boston State Senator Jack Hart (left), now a Partner at Nelson Mullins, and former Dorchester State Representative Jim Brett (right), President and CEO of The New England Council.



WALSH: Finance Reform
CONTINUED from page 1

tunity and achievement gaps, meet the diverse needs of every kind of student and make our district schools top choices for every family in every neighborhood. I am committed to working with our partners on Beacon Hill to fix education funding formulas and getting every student on a pathway to success from pre-kindergarten through college and career, and I want to thank our legislative partners for their willingness to sponsor and support these reforms.”

Boston Public Schools recently completed a Long-Term Financial Plan that identified 10 big ideas to unlock resources in the Boston Public Schools. Based on these findings, Mayor Walsh is recommending comprehensive education finance reform legislation that would increase annual available funding for Boston by \$35 million for increased investment in education in its first year of implementation. The package would fix the broken charter school finance model, expand the use of the Massachusetts School Building Authority, more fully fund the cost of the Commonwealth’s highest need students, and redirect existing tax revenue produced in Boston back to its residents. In addition, if the legislature substantially increases investment in education through a new revenue source, the Mayor’s Chapter 70 Edu-

cation Aid proposal positions Boston to receive a portion of the new funding, and to receive an additional \$150 million annually for Boston students within several years.

The bills in the Mayor’s legislative agenda on education include:

- Make the Massachusetts School Building Authority responsible for charter school facilities charges and makes charter schools eligible for MSBA funding for school construction and renovation. Currently, cities and towns pay a facilities rate to charter schools and are then reimbursed by the State, making municipalities essentially a pass-through function. This reform would both relieve districts of \$35 million in annual costs and afford charter schools the same opportunities as their district school peers. The \$35 million freed up by this change, paired with the more affordable direct funding model proposed by the Mayor, would allow for charter transition funding, which is currently underfunded by 54%, to be nearly fully funded. Boston has contributed almost \$1 billion to the MSBA since its creation, but has only been approved for \$65 million in capital spending.

- Reform charter school financing by reducing the state’s overall liability while returning to a true partnership between the Commonwealth and its cities and towns. The proposal would

replace the broken charter reimbursement model with a new three-year transition funding system. Current law provides for the Commonwealth to reimburse the city for the full first year costs of charter growth and five years of partial growth.

- Adjust the charter school per-pupil tuition calculation to recognize the full transition costs for students leaving BPS to attend charter schools, rather than just the amount funded through the transition funding formula. Due to a flaw in the current formula, the charter assessment directly penalizes communities that have had their charter reimbursement appropriations underfunded.

- Increase Circuit Breaker reimbursement for the highest need and highest

cost students. Boston Public Schools students overall face more significant and more numerous disabilities than students in other districts. BPS has seen an increase in the number of high need students. The proposal would change this threshold to 3 times the average pupil cost. If fully funded, the change would increase BPS funding by about \$6 million.

- Find efficiencies in school transportation by allowing district and charter schools to split transportation costs equally if transportation schedule agreements cannot be reached, and by prohibiting charters from passing costs of third party transportation to districts. The City dedicates significant resources to school transportation, spend-

Continued on page 14

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Massport's Conley Container Terminal Continues Record-Setting Growth

The Port of Boston's Paul W. Conley Container Terminal set a new calendar year record in 2016; with total volume up 5 percent over 2015. In 2016, 248,391 twenty-foot equivalent units (TEUs) were moved in and out of the terminal, connecting vital goods and services between New England and the world. The Port of Boston is the main artery of Massachusetts' consumer economy, with imports and exports serving as strong catalysts for growth, investment and opportunity.

"The Conley Container Terminal's sustained growth is a pillar of the Massachusetts economy, supporting thousands of jobs and local businesses across the Commonwealth, while ensuring people receive the goods they need when they need them," said Governor Charlie Baker. "A strong, working port is a necessity for continued economic growth which is why I have consistently supported

smart investments to keep the Port of Boston's facilities secure, up to date and competitive."

2016 saw the volume of both imports and exports rise significantly. Imports were up by more than 5,000 TEUs (4.5 percent) over 2015 and exports grew by nearly 10,000 TEUs (11.7 percent) this year, as more New England-based businesses used Conley to bring their products to the global marketplace.

"The continued growth and success of Conley has a far greater impact than these remarkable back-to-back records," said Massport CEO Thomas P. Glynn. "The true impact of the strategic planning and investment Massport and our state and federal partners have made can be found in the significant economic impact seen by businesses throughout New England and the region's access to vital goods."

More than 1,600 businesses in New England currently use the

Port of Boston to import and export their products. The percent year-over-year growth seen at Conley in 2016 for both imports and exports significantly outpaced overall growth at ports up and down the East, West and Gulf coasts. In addition, volume at Conley is up 32.3 percent since 2012 and by April 2017, 12 of the world's top fifteen shipping lines will be calling the Port of Boston versus just five four years ago.

Absent an unforeseen event, 2017 is expected to carry on with record-breaking volumes at the Port of Boston with the addition in April of new Asia services operated by Ocean Alliance and THE Alliance, respectively. Conley Terminal, which is owned and operated by Massport, is the only full-service container terminal in New England and already serves seven of the top shipping lines in the world: Mediterranean Shipping Company (MSC), COSCO Shipping), "K"

Line, Yang Ming, Evergreen, Maersk Line and CMA CGM. With the April 2017 service changes, five new shipping lines – Hapag-Lloyd, OOCL, APL, NYK and MOL – will start service to Boston.

This record-setting growth is taking place in concert with significant investments made by Massport to ensure Conley Terminal remains competitive and ripe for continued growth. This is taking shape in the form of two major initiatives. First, ensuring Conley Terminal has the infrastructure upgrades needed to handle larger container ships efficiently and effectively. Massport, with the help of local and state officials, secured two significant funding sources to reach this goal; \$107.5 million dollars in state funding to build a new berth and procure three larger cranes and a \$42 million dollar Federal FASTLANE

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437 D St UNIT 2F Condo	\$940,000	12/8/16	4	2	1811
146 Athens St UNIT 1 Condo	\$900,000	12/12/16	5	2	1575
275 Old Colony UNIT 13 Condo	\$765,000	12/9/16	4	2	999
703 East Fourth St UNIT 3 Condo	\$689,000	12/8/16	3	1	1083
275 Old Colony Unit 5 Condo	\$670,000	12/9/16	4	2	1022
275 Old Colony Unit 11 Condo	\$650,000	12/9/16	4	2	1022
275 Old Colony UNIT 3 Condo	\$650,000	12/9/16	4	2	875
542 Dorchester Ave UNIT 302 Condo	\$640,000	12/6/16	4	2	1059
307 Bolton Street Single Family	\$600,000	12/9/16	5	1.5	1224
14 Mercer St UNIT 1 Condo	\$517,500	12/9/16	3	1	978
266 Bowen St UNIT 1 Condo	\$435,000	12/8/16	4	1.5	783
77 Old Harbor St UNIT 2 Condo	\$409,000	12/9/16	4	1	562
33 Lennon Ct. UNIT 35 Condo	\$375,000	12/9/16	3	1	560
528 East Third St UNIT 2 Condo	\$375,000	12/9/16	3	1	581
128 West Ninth St UNIT C Condo	\$356,000	12/7/16	4	1	615

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An alternate date of Thursday, February 9 at 6:30 PM is scheduled in the event of inclement weather on February 2.

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America's Presidential Inauguration: From 1789 to 2017

By Jessica Grande/SBT Staff Writer

This week America will hold its 58th Presidential Inauguration with all the fantastic pomp and ceremony that goes along with this prestigious and unique event. President-elect Donald J Trump will become President Trump, the nation's 45th president at exactly 12:01pm if all goes as schedule and an inauguration is something that usually goes off with military precision and right on time.

The United State Presidential Inauguration has a wonderful history as it symbolizes and showcases the peaceful and smooth transition of power from one president and administration to the next. This event happens every 4 years whether a president serves one 4 year term or two. It also includes the inauguration of the Vice President of the United States. In this case it will be Governor Michael Pence of Indiana.

The first ever Inauguration was of course that of George Washington which took place on April 30th, 1789 at the Federal Hall in New

York. Washington recited the oath of office read by then Chancellor Robert Livingston with his right hand on the Bible. That oath, which President Trump will repeat word for word, reads as follows:

"I do solemnly swear that I will faithfully execute the office of the President of the United States and will, to the best of my ability preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States. So Help Me God."

Washington's 2nd inaugural address after taking the oath was a mere 135 words. Since that time however, other presidents have spoken much longer, often touching on important issues of the day with a forward look to the future while highlighting America's magnificent history as well. Notably longer was the address of President William Henry Harrison whose address contained 8,495 words.

Thought by some historians to be the greatest inaugural address of all time was that of President Abraham Lincoln; his second inauguration in 1865 with the nation caught up in the Civil War.

In the past, the dates for

the presidential inauguration have changed. Originally with Washington, it was held in April. It was later moved to March and in modern times is always held on the 20th of January; unless the 20th falls on a Sunday. In that case, there is a private swearing in on the 20th itself, with the public ceremonies then held the next day on the 21st. In 1981, President Ronald Reagan broke with tradition and had the event moved to the Capital's West Front from the traditionally used East Front to accommodate the massive crowd that was predicted to turn out for Reagan.

Traditionally, the schedule of events is preceded by the president-elect attending a church service which will be the case this year as well. This will be followed by a luncheon at the capital attended by members of Congress. Then comes the massive parade with marching bands from many parts of the country participating and the line-up is once again filling up quickly by all reports.

The Inaugural Ball is one of the highlights of the proceedings which is a formal black tie and gown

event. There are other entertainment gatherings scheduled as well; this year featuring widely known performers such as the Rockettes dancers from New York and the Mormon Tabernacle Choir. Big name Country Music Artists have also signed on to entertain, among them Toby Keith, Big and Rich and even Kid Rock will play a set. And many more will be taking part. There will also be a Ball to honor America's Armed Forces and First Responders. The new president and vice president and their wives are expected to make appearances at all of them over the course of the evening. The next day, January 21st, an inter-faith prayer service will take place at the Washington National Cathedral which will bring all the festivities to an end.

America's Presidential Inauguration is truly a source of pride for our country, signifying unity and highlighting the country's independence, stability and strength. It's open to all Americans that wish to attend and celebrate one of the Union's finest traditions. It dates back to the birth of our nation and is something that, God willing, will go on forever.



Mastery Day at St Peter Academy

With the start of the 2016-2017 school year, St. Peter Academy proudly incorporated an exciting new concept to the already rigorous academic schedule. An entire school day dedicated to individualized instruction and mastery of grade level skills, fittingly named Mastery Day, has been fully embraced by all of SPA's exemplary teachers and students. Mastery Day is a purposeful pause to the introduction of new material; and used to ensure that all students have the foundational knowledge necessary for success in future learning. Each Thursday morning consists of an ELA Mastery Block and a Math Mastery Block. Students meet with their teacher to work on the

mastery of skills identified as areas of improvement in both content areas. During this time, all other students work on independent projects and or enrichment centers. Thursday afternoons consist of extra enrichment classes with blocks of Art and Movement for the students. During this time, classroom teachers meet to debrief mastery instructional blocks, analyze assessment data and strategize/plan for further individualized instruction.

In K2, Mastery Day has one more exciting component that students anxiously await for all week...the Mastery Badge Ceremony! Not only does K2 work on their individualized mastery goals throughout the week and on Mastery Day with their teacher, Mrs. Sacriponte, they are

also assessed to evaluate "mastery" of their weekly goal. If students have reached mastery goals a Mastery Badge Ceremony is held on that week's Mastery Day to pin a new badge on their special sash. It is a wonderful time to celebrate their new successes and congratulate friends on a job well done.

Meet the exemplary teaching staff of St. Peter Academy at their Winter Open House on Tuesday January 24 from 9:00-11:30 am and 3:00-6:00pm. Can't make the open house but want to learn more – Private tours are available upon request.

St Peter Academy, an independent community based private school, is South Boston's only Toddler through Grade 8

School. It is privately funded, enriched with extended learning hours and summer programs, and fosters a nurturing, safe and individualized environment. The student/teacher ratio is 6:1 which is ideal for creating exemplary instructional models filled with interactive learning opportunities. The school is located at 371 West Fourth Street and is currently accepting applications for the year round toddler program and 2017 school year – To learn more about the school and all programs visit www.stpeteracademy.com or schedule a private tour by contacting Ms. Doreen Brown or Ms Maria Blasi at 617-268-0750 or email SPA@StPeterAcademy.com.



Different Strokes

*Kathy Deflice Secor, Molly Gayley, Bredt Handy,
Margaret Hunt, Barbara Keller, Laura Lester,
Gloria Ross, Rena Shear, and Nancy Leigh Thompson*

Exhibition: January 3, 2017 – February 3, 2017

Reception and Artist Talk: Thursday, January 19, 5:30 – 7:30 pm

The Fort Point Arts Community Gallery is pleased to announce Different Strokes, the third show of the 2016-2017 season, juried by Jeffrey De Blois of the Institute of Contemporary Art/Boston.

Different Strokes features nine artists who work together weekly, guided by their teacher and mentor-in-common, Elizabeth DaCosta Ahern. The artists have very different styles and approaches, yet their collective experience unifies them, enriching both process and the resulting works.

Through collaborative learning and critiques, individual styles emerge and play off each other. The

artists have developed individual approaches to mark-making, palette, imagery, and internal references, and they share these with one another weekly. Discussions of tools, materials, and process inevitably influence individual choices, in some cases borrowing directly and consciously, in others incorporating something more subtle, perhaps a color combination or the way another uses a particular brush.

During the reception, on Thursday, January 19 the artists will begin a discussion of the question, “Have you ever wondered how a painting was created?”

In answer, the artists will show the different paints and tools they use to

create a wide range of very different paintings. Each will hang a poster along with her work. The poster illustrates the process the artist used, by showing photographs of tools, color-mixing swatches, and notes and drawings about the piece.

The talk and posters will be fully integrated into the exhibit. During the talk and for the duration of the exhibit, gallery visitors will be invited to use post-it notes to comment on the art and ask questions about it. The artists will respond to these questions regularly, via post-its, thereby encouraging viewers to revisit the exhibit. Gallery hours: Mon-Fri: 10:00 am–4:00 pm and by appointment.

Artist Statements

Kathy DeFlice-Secor: “The creative process is an involuntary act—it sustains and liberates. My Images emerge as a response to life. Time, memory, and my environment influence the work. It is in the doing and process that I navigate these responses. Creating space with line, color, and form.

This is my visual diary, related, obscure, unique, and personal.”

Molly Gayley: “Color is at the heart of my work. It is a large part of my pleasure in painting, whether a still life or an abstraction. Mixing the colors, seeing how they interact, what happens when two or three colors combine to produce something new or unexpected, all this is deeply satisfying.”

Bredt Handy (www.bredthandy.com): “When I paint, I begin with my observations of the natural world around me. Through the act of painting, mixing color, applying layers, and making marks, my metaphorical thoughts, my memories, and my emotional responses take form; the painting emerges. Painting is discovery, a way to connect what I observe with what I feel.”

Margaret Hunt: “My paintings are almost exclusively based on memories—memories not just visual but sounds, smells, temperature, how the air felt at the time, my mood. On the rare occasion that I start working with a photograph in front of me, the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13



Parks Dept. Announces Tree Removal Hearing

In accordance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 87, the Boston Parks and Recreation Department will hold a public hearing on Thursday, February 2, at 11 a.m. on a request to remove one public shade tree at 586 East Third Street in South Boston.

The hearing will be held by the City of Boston's Tree Warden (or designee) in the 3rd floor Conference Room of the Boston Parks and Recreation Department at 1010 Massachusetts Avenue, Roxbury.

The request is for the removal of one Norway maple tree measuring 13 inches dbh (diameter at breast height)

due to a proposed curb cut at 586 East Third Street.

Public testimony will be taken at the hearing, or may be provided prior to the hearing in writing to the Tree Warden, Boston Parks and Recreation Department, 1010 Massachusetts Avenue, 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02118 or by emailing parks@boston.gov with "South Boston Tree Hearing" in the subject line.

A final decision regarding the request will be made within two weeks of the hearing. For further information, please contact the Tree Warden at (617) 635-7275.

Different Strokes CONTINUED from page 12

photo quickly becomes irrelevant and the painting goes its own separate way. I often feel that a painting already exists on the canvas and it's up to me to find it."

Barbara Keller: "Painting is a non-verbal expression, in terms of color, texture, and space, of my view of the world and the things that are important to me. When I work at fiber arts and graphic design, I use my esthetic sensibilities, but paintings come from a deeper source. I hope my work resonates with viewers and takes them to somewhere new—or to perhaps somewhere they already know."

Laura Louise Lester: "My art is

part of what makes me me—an anchor that keeps me feeling whole. My sketchbooks and journals are my companions, documenting my travels and life experiences. It takes inspiration, technique, and courage to be an artist. My hope is to share my journey with the courage and technique that invites viewers to enjoy the freedom and joy of an abstract painter."

Gloria Ross: "Forms found in nature are the inspiration for my art—the human body, flowers, and foliage are the foundation for many of my pieces. Botanical accuracy is not important to me; flowers become abstract images covering a field with color and shapes, maybe recognizable but mysterious and emotional."



Celebrate the New Year With 10 Free Flowering Trees from the Arbor Day Foundation

Residents in your state can ring in the New Year with 10 free flowering trees by joining the Arbor Day Foundation any time during January 2017.

By becoming a part of the nonprofit Arbor Day Foundation, new members will receive two Sargent crabapples, three American redbuds, two Washington hawthorns, and three white flowering dogwoods.

"These beautiful trees will beautify your home with lovely flowers of pink, yellow and white

colors," said Matt Harris, chief executive of the Arbor Day Foundation. "These trees are perfect for large and small spaces, and they will provide food and habitat for songbirds."

The free trees are part of the Foundation's Trees for America campaign.

The trees will be shipped postpaid at the right time for planting, between February 1 and May 31, with enclosed planting instructions.

The 6- to 12-inch tall trees are guaranteed to grow or they will be replaced free of charge.

Members will also receive a subscription to the Foundation's bimonthly publication, Arbor Day, and The Tree Book, which includes information about tree planting and care.

To become a member of the Foundation and to receive the free trees, send a \$10 contribution to TEN FREE FLOWERING TREES, Arbor Day Foundation, 100 Arbor Avenue, Nebraska City, NE 68410, by January 31, 2017. Residents can also join online at arborday.org/january.

Rena Shear (www.renashear.com): "Color is my main inspiration and motivation in art: it's part of my emotional language. There are conversations between colors that transcend the spoken word. To pay homage to all of my sources of inspiration (whether it's music, nature, or emotion), it feels only fitting to show my gratitude by infusing my work through texture, gesture, and color relationships with the energy and spirit that have touched me so deeply."

Nancy Leigh Thompson (www.nancyleighthompson.com): "The discovery of beauty, mystery, and surprise in nature, art, and personal experience inspires me to paint. My work attempts to

render through the dialogue of color, forms, layers and marks, the nuance, drama, and symbolism I see in the landscape, and lately in the environs of the river."

About the Juror

Jeffrey De Blois is a curatorial assistant at the Institute for Contemporary Art/Boston. Formerly, as a curatorial fellow at MIT List Visual Arts Center, De Blois co-organized the center's exhibition Katrín Sigurdardóttir: Drawing Apart, with Paul C. Ha. At the ICA/Boston, he organized The Freedom of Information, part of a larger upcoming exhibition First Light: A Decade of Collecting at the ICA. He holds a Master's in the history of art and architecture from Boston University.



MASSPORT

Continued from page 8

Grant to maintain and modernize the existing terminal. In addition, a funding partnership between the federal government, state government, and Massport was created to dredge Boston Harbor. In total, \$850 million will be invested to ensure Massport can continue to serve the New England importer and exporter community.

“Year after year, the Conley Terminal is breaking records for container volume and solidifying the Port of Boston’s role as a regional economic engine and a global competitor. Thanks to the collaborative leadership of Tom Glynn and his team at Massport, including Bill McNamara and the International Longshoremen’s Association, Governor Baker, our state legislature, and our congressional delegation, critical infrastructure investments are being made to help Conley Terminal continue to reach new levels of productivity. These investments are forward thinking and will help attract more customers and support additional jobs,” said Congressman Stephen F. Lynch (D-Boston).

“Over 1,600 businesses help drive economic development in our region by using the Port of Boston for importing and exporting which has translated to another record breaking year for Conley Terminal,” said Senator Linda Dorcea Forry. “I will continue to work in partnership with Massport, the International Longshoremen’s Association and my colleagues at both the state and federal level to help ensure Conley Terminal’s growth as the premier port for the shipping industry to help drive economic development in our region,” concluded Senator Forry.

“I’m thankful to my colleagues in the Legislature for recognizing the importance of Conley Terminal as an economic engine for this region and investing over \$160 million in our port to help grow jobs and increase productivity,” said State Representative Nick Collins. “This level of production shows that the investment by the state has helped Conley Terminal flourish.”

WALSH: FINANCE REFORM

Continued from page 7

ing over \$100 million, or 10% of the annual BPS budget. In recent years, BPS has made numerous policy and operational changes aimed at reducing its own transportation costs, but has limited ability to influence the charter transportation costs that it is responsible for.

- Fix the Chapter 70 Education Aid Formula for communities that spend beyond state guidelines and serve high cost populations, but that do not receive significant education aid increases. The Commonwealth’s Chapter 70 per pupil Education Aid to Boston has been decreasing despite rising costs of educating students. Boston’s per pupil Chapter 70 Aid decreased from \$3,519 in FY08 to \$3,365 in FY17, while City funding for BPS and charter schools grew by almost 40%, leaving the City, with its limited revenue raising ability, to fill the gap at the expense of other City programming. With the Mayor’s proposal, Boston could fundamentally change its State Education Aid picture and invest an additional \$150 million per year in its students within the next several years. If the Commonwealth identifies a new revenue source for education, the Mayor’s proposal combines needed foundation budget updates for economically disadvantaged students, special education, and English Language Learning with a local contribution reform for communities like Boston.

- Close the “quality gap” in pre-kindergarten seats in Boston by Fiscal Year 2025 by creating approximately hundreds more quality pre-kindergarten seats, which would be funded by redirecting surplus revenue raised in Boston from the Convention Center Fund to the City of Boston. This proposal would guarantee free, high-quality pre-kindergarten for every four-year-old in Boston by dedicating \$16.5 million to early education in Boston. This legislation will redirect two Convention Center Fund revenues that are produced exclusively in the City of Boston: the Boston Sightseeing

Surcharge and the Boston Vehicular Rental Transaction Surcharge. Neither revenue source is directly related to convention center business, and Convention Center revenue is almost entirely raised in Boston. However, in recent years, Fund surpluses have been used to balance the statewide budget. In FY16 alone, the Commonwealth drew \$60 million from the Convention Center Fund to close the year in balance. Boston residents have a strong claim on this revenue, and supporting early education will make a difference in the lives of thousands of children and families in Boston, and will provide all children with equal opportunities for success. The Walsh Administration has added hundreds of pre-kindergarten seats over the past three years and, while families now have virtually universal access to pre-kindergarten seats, they do not have universal access to free, high-quality seats.

Mayor Walsh’s legislative agenda on education is part of the Walsh Administration’s comprehensive effort to expand opportunity to education opportunity for students of all ages. Since 2014, Mayor Walsh has increased funding to BPS by \$93 million to support important programs and improve students’ futures.

Notable other investments include:

- Extending the school day to at least 6 ½ hours for most kindergarten to 8th graders, adding 120 hours of learning time for over 23,000 students that didn’t previously have it.
- 750 more children are in high-quality, free pre-kindergarten classrooms through targeted investment and community partners.
- Launching 4th grade “Excellence for All” in 13 schools so that hundreds of additional 4th grade students will have access to rigorous academic and enrichment experiences.
- Achieving the most schools designated as Level 1 or Level 2 since 2012.
- Offering tuition-free community college to eligible students.
- Improving graduation rate at BPS, reaching an all-time high of 70.7%.

CITATION ON PETITION FOR ORDER OF COMPLETE SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE

Docket No. SU15P2351EA

Commonwealth Of

Massachusetts

The Trial Court

Probate and Family Court

Estate of: Jeremiah A Landry

Also known as: Jeremiah

Anthony Landry

Date of Death: 08/11/2015

Suffolk Probate and Family Court

24 New Chardon Street,

Boston, MA 02114 (617) 788-8300

To all interested persons:

A Petition has been filed by:

Colleen M Tallent of South Boston MA

requesting that an Order of Complete Settlement of the estate issue including to approve an accounting and compel and other such relief as may be requested in the Petition. **For First and Final Account.**

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 02/16/2017. 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

January 11, 2017

Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate

January 19, 2017

CICCONE

Continued from page 3

Manor where our mother received the finest care during her stay there but also for the love and kindness they showered her with consistently and sincerely during her illness. We could not have asked for a more professional and compassionate group of people to tend to her needs. So, to the nurses, the doctors, the healthcare workers and aids and of course the good Sisters – the Nuns, Thank you again for all you did. Our family will never forget you for it. You have our eternal gratitude. May God bless you all.



This week, Danny gave "Pic's Picks" for Conference Championship weekend

Let's call it what it is. I didn't have a good weekend in the Divisional Round of the NFL Playoffs. The only game I got correct was the New England Patriots winning and covering the spread as a 16-point favorite. Makes sense though. The Pats were the closest thing to the sure thing all season long.

Now, we've got four teams left standing. And in my preseason predictions that were printed right here in this very newspaper back in early September, I correctly predicted three of the final four teams remaining in the playoffs: Patriots, Pittsburgh Steelers, and Green Bay Packers.

To be fair, I changed some of those predictions right before the playoffs began, based on what I saw in the regular season. So, I can't take too much credit. But all you really need to know is that I've been sticking with the team I originally picked to win it all. And that's the Patriots.

That said, here are my picks for the AFC and NFC Championship games: ATLANTA FALCONS (-4) over Green Bay Packers -With the way the Green Bay Packers are playing, I'm actually surprised the spread is this high, even in Atlanta. The Falcons host the Packers at 3:05 on Sunday.

As the No. 2 seed, it will be Atlanta's second-straight home game in these playoffs after a first-round bye. The Falcons defeated the Seattle Seahawks 36-20 in the Divisional Round. Even without Earl Thomas, the Seahawks' defense is still one of the best in the NFL. Yet, Matt Ryan was still able to throw for 338 yards and three touchdowns. If he can put up 36 points against one of the best defenses in the league, what will he do against one of the worst? The Packers' pass defense ranks as the second-worst in the NFL, allowing 270 yards in the air per game. And if you watched Green Bay defeat the Dallas Cowboys in the Divisional Round, you know the Packers didn't win that one with their defense. Look, there's a reason why the over/under in this one is 61. It's expected to be a high-scoring affair, because the Falcons' pass defense is also one of the worst in the league, ranking 28th while allowing 267 yards in the air per game. It might not seem like a wise choice to pick against Aaron Rodgers right now, but since this one is in Atlanta, I have to take the quarterback who thrives in his own building. That's right, I'm going with Ryan over

Rodgers. I never thought I'd say that, but Ryan's weapons are more dangerous than Rodgers', in my opinion, especially with Jordy Nelson's return being called a "long shot" as I write this. Also, the Falcons already beat the Packers this season, in Atlanta. And I expect them to do it again, this time by a touchdown. Put the Falcons in the Super Bowl.

NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS (-6) over Pittsburgh Steelers -Prepare to hear the experts pick the Pittsburgh Steelers to win this game because of their offensive weapons. The three-headed monster of Ben Roethlisberger, Le'Veon Bell, and Antonio Brown is certainly one of the best trios in the league. But perhaps the most overlooked storyline here will be the New England Patriots' defense. Statistically, the Pats' defense allows the least amount of points per game, at 15.6. But many will question how many times that defense has actually been tested this season. Well, I'll counter that argument by looking at the teams Pittsburgh has beaten during its end-of-the-season hot stretch. The Steelers entered the playoffs with a seven-game winning streak. But

out of the seven teams they beat during that streak, only one of them made the playoffs, the New York Giants. Pittsburgh then beat up on a bad Miami Dolphins team in the Wild Card Round. Credit where credit's due though; the Steelers' win over the Chiefs in Kansas City in the Divisional Round was quite impressive, especially since they didn't even score a touchdown. They won the game with six field goals, and now come to Gillette Stadium to try and upset the team that's currently favored to win the Super Bowl. Not just this year's Super Bowl, but also next year's. That's right, the Patriots are also the favorite to win Super Bowl LII, before they've even advanced to Super Bowl LI. I don't expect Pittsburgh to win in Foxboro on Sunday. Mainly because the Steelers' defense isn't as good as the Houston Texans', so I don't think they'll be able to give Tom Brady the type of fits that the Texans did in the Divisional Round. Houston's defense is one of the best in the NFL. Pittsburgh's isn't even close to matching up with that. I'm taking the Patriots to win, and win big. *Listen to "The Danny Picard Show" at dannypicard.com and on WEEI 93.7 FM.*

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