



Boston Athletic Club Has Been The Neighborhood Club

ACTION ALERT! Drama aside, members of The Boston Athletic Club (BAC) should not summarily accept the disintegration of their corner of their cherished health club. Elected officials need to know how you feel. Congressman Stephen

Lynch enjoys the camaraderie of the club, as does Councilor Michael Flaherty. Representative Nick Collins and Senator Linda Forry should be informed. After all, Massport is within their jurisdiction. Before Councilor Linehan rides off into the



sunset, he too should be alerted. It has just recently come to the attention of this newspaper that there are plans underway to convert certain areas of the BAC facility from their current uses as handball and

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EDITORIAL

Fined For Not Shoveling? Sometimes Things Aren't What They Seem

The story about 78-year-old Lorraine Walsh has gone far beyond the borders of South Boston. It made the news all over America and even in Canada. As most know, Lorraine, a South Bostonian was fined \$200 for allegedly not properly shoveling her walk after the recent snow storms. People expressed anger that she received this fine, as many believe she may not have been physically able to accomplish this task in the time frame set by City Hall.

There was a lot of snow that had then become a heavy icy slush. The other reason for the anger was that being from South Boston, it's difficult for most residents to understand why there weren't neighbors stepping up to do the shoveling for her. It's what we do in Southie.

Of course, the possibility exists that perhaps neighbors didn't realize that there was a need to assist since, often, people are reluctant to ask for help. Which brings us to make this sugges-

tion: Checking on our neighbors from time to time in an effort to let them know you care and are willing to assist if need be is a wonderful thing. It's what good neighbors do and it's always been a tradition in South Boston. And like most traditions, it's one worth keeping.


Oh, and a special shout out to Christian Galvin who has stepped up and offered to pay Lorraine Walsh's fine for her if her appeal to City Hall to waive the fine is rejected.



"We can't help everyone, but everyone can help someone" - President Ronald Reagan



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PO Box 491 • South Boston, MA 02127

Publisher
John Ciccone

Editor In Chief
Brian R. Mahoney

info@southbostontoday.com • ads@southbostontoday.com

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396 West Broadway • 617.268.4032 • Office hours: Mon-Fri 10:00am - 2:00pm

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The Information Center



President Trump, Fake News and a Dishonest Media

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY
John Ciccone

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

“The fake news media isn’t my enemy; they are the enemy of the American people.” This quote, as we all know, came from President Trump late last week. It’s a quote that got massive attention, as soon as it was tweeted out, and it’s one that has members of the mainstream media in shock. It’s also a quote that has put the press on notice, bluntly, so there can be no doubt that this guy, the President, has absolutely no fear of them or their rapidly dwindling power and influence.

No one has stood up to bullying news outlets like this since Ronald Reagan was President. The press hated Reagan, as well, because he could not be intimidated by them and he made it clear that HE was in charge, not the preening, agenda driven reporters that think it is they

who should be running the country. But President Reagan had a different method than President Trump when taking on the press. He would good naturedly tease them, brush them off and often laughed at their attempts to run rough shod over him and even try to bring down his presidency. With Donald Trump, these reporters are facing someone who goes toe to toe with them, calls them out for who and what they are and treats them with no respect, because the way some of them act, they deserve no respect. And members of the press are scared.

They are scared because they see what’s left of their credibility shrinking by the day. The term ‘fake news’ is on the lips of most Americans now. Americans distrusts them. No longer do people buy hook, line and sinker

what they watch on TV news, read in the newspapers or see online. The public now questions what is reported in the media, because they understand clearly now that many in the press have, for years, been manipulating and slanting their reports to make the public think and believe what they want them to think and to believe and not necessarily give them accurate accounts of what’s really going on. It has even been exposed that some survey and polling questions are now asked in ways that will get the hoped-for results in their constant effort to sway public opinion.

The outraged media types indignantly complain that freedom of the press is vital to democracy and to deliberately undermine it, as they say President Trump is doing, endangers that freedom. Yes, a free press is in fact vital to our

democracy. But having a dishonest media, a media that creates, fabricates and slants its reporting to fit its own ideology is just as dangerous. And in so many cases, that’s what it has been doing and the people are on to them and these so-called journalists are furious about it. So, they attack and attack some more and in their desperation, these attacks get more vicious every day.

They attack Trump and even his family constantly, but he gives it right back to them and millions cheer him for it. They also attack conservatives, and relentlessly put down American values and traditions. To them, if you are patriotic or religious, believe in a strong military and advocate for the rule of law and things like border security and respect for law enforcement then you are the target of

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11



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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.

The horror: High-end bars may be forced to serve alcohol in plastic cups

This will show those upscale bars that the city means business. From the Herald's Dan Atkinson: "Your days of sipping adult beverages from a Solo cup could be making a comeback, specifically at some of Boston's high-end bars. Following a string of local bar assaults involving glassware, the city's Liquor Licensing Board is moving to crack down on establishments where patrons have suffered injuries related to glasses holding drinks. Watering holes with repeat offenses could have to use plastic barware in lieu of the real deal."

Conservation Law Foundation sues state over Seaport high-rise ruling

The Conservation Law Foundation has carried through on its threat to sue the state over its environmental approval of a \$260 million luxury-condo development on the South Boston waterfront, claiming in a new lawsuit that officials overstepped their legal authority by approving an amendment to the city's harbor plan density restrictions, reports the Globe's Kathleen Conti.

App helps shoppers steer away from Trump-tied stores and products

From Olivia Vanni at BostInno: "DoneGood, a local startup that helps consumers discover busi-

nesses that align with their values, just launched a new version of its Chrome extension that makes it easier for people to boycott stores, companies and products with ties to Trump. Once you install the extension, it will give you automatic alerts whenever you visit a website flagging that the company is linked to the 45th president."

A 'first step' toward criminal justice reform

Gov. Charlie Baker yesterday filed legislation designed to reduce the "revolving door" of criminals landing back in jail after being released from prison, reports the Herald's Chris Villani, and the same bill would give prisoners a greater shot at early release, even if they receive a mandatory minimum sentence, reports SHNS's Andy Metzger at Wicked Local.

But are those and other steps enough to satisfy advocates of more far-reaching criminal justice reforms? Answer: No. Calls for more expansive reforms will continue, especially reforms that reduce the number of people being locked up in the first place, according to a report at WBUR. At Commonwealth magazine, state Sen. William Brownberger outlines where he thinks criminal justice reforms can and should be headed.

But Conley pushes back

Not everyone is enthusiastic about more reforms. From Commonwealth's Bruce Mohl: "Suffolk County District Attorney Dan Conley on Tuesday pushed back against efforts by Chief Justice Ralph Gants and members of the Senate to do away with mandatory minimum sentences and give more discretion in handing out punishment to judges."

Deportation Economics 101

Local politicians are gearing up for another major fight against

President Trump's latest order on immigration. Attorney General Maura Healey is vowing 'fierce opposition' to the president's new plan, reports Tori Bedford at WGBH. Meanwhile, U.S. Rep. Joseph Kennedy III is also worried that the latest orders might lead to mass deportations of immigrants, reports the Globe's Adrian Walker.

But what caught our attention is the Globe's smart coverage this morning on the economic consequences of all the controversies swirling around immigration, let alone possible deportations, such as how hospitals are increasingly under intense pressure to reject qualified international medical students applying for residencies in the United States, as reported by the Globe's Michael Levenson, and how local tech firms are becoming mighty nervous about the status of their foreign workers and H-1B visas, as reported by the Globe's Janelle Nanos. From the travel and tourism industry to the biotech sector, a lot of state industries are growing alarmed by what's happening in Washington.

Citing potential loss of funds, UMass declares it won't be a 'sanctuary campus'

Despite demands from some students, faculty and staff that UMass declare itself a "sanctuary campus," a school spokesman said in a statement yesterday that such a move would merely "create a false sense of security" and "jeopardize federal funding to support our mission, including hundreds of millions of dollars for financial aid to students and research support for faculty," reports Diane Lederman at MassLive.

Meanwhile, the Newton City Council last night voted to be-

Continued on page 6

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How We're Making Boston's Streets Safer

By Mayor Martin J. Walsh

In January, the busy streets of Boston became safer. As we dig out from this month's snowstorms and prepare for spring, I want to remind drivers, cyclists and pedestrians about our City's newest initiative to make our streets safer: reducing the speed limit on streets in Boston from 30 miles per hour to 25 miles per hour (MPH).

This reduction, part of Boston's Vision Zero initiative, will make Boston a safer place for people of all ages and abilities to walk, bike and drive in our streets. With Vision Zero, we are dedicated to ending traffic deaths and serious injuries by the year 2030.

Some may wonder what difference a five-mile reduction will make, but for those walking or biking on our streets, cars will be traveling at a significantly reduced speed. Data has shown that when a driver is going at or below 25 MPH, drivers are less likely to be severely injured or killed in a traffic crash. This is the same for cyclists and pedestrians. When drivers and pedestrians have more time to see each other and react, injuries and fatalities go down.

When looking at fatalities or severe injuries, pedestrians have a 20 percent chance of being killed by a driver traveling at 30 MPH. There's a 12 percent chance of a pedestrian being killed by a driver traveling at 25 MPH. With the research and common sense available, we know slower speeds will save lives.

This speed reduction is on par with other U.S. cities such as New

York City, Los Angeles and Washington D.C., as well as London, Paris, Berlin and Tokyo internationally. The significance of seemingly minor differences in speed is why it's essential we change our default speed limit to 25 MPH.

For drivers worried lower speeds will cause additional traffic, we know the speed limit reduction will not have a negative impact on your ability to get where you're going. Traffic speed is determined more by congestion, double-parked cars, turning vehicles and traffic signals than the speed limit itself. This is especially true at congested times of the day when most drivers are already going slower than 25 MPH.

With Boston's Public Works Department doing all they can to make sure our streets are plowed, salted and sanded in inclement weather, and law enforcement making every effort to stop those who drive dangerously, lowering the speed limit to 25 MPH will help us protect residents from harm. As we install the new traffic signs across the city, it's important to remember that if you don't see a posted sign, the speed limit is 25 MPH.

Our new, lower speed limit is part of a broader vision to make Boston's streets safe and accessible for all. In March, we will release our Go Boston 2030 report, which envisions the next decade of Boston's streets. We're revitalizing crosswalks and lane markings. We're piloting self-driving cars. Our Public Works Department works constantly to create the best streets, whether it's sanding before a storm, plowing during a

blizzard or fixing potholes once the snow clears.

In addition to what the City is doing, I encourage residents to get involved. I hope neighborhoods will take part on our Neighborhood Slow Streets program, a City initiative to slow traffic speeds and improve safety on residential streets within a specific area. When a neighborhood is part of the program, the speed limit on its residential streets will be 20 MPH. Residents can work with their neighbors to submit an application, due by March 24. Visit [https://www.boston.gov/transportation/neighbor-](https://www.boston.gov/transportation/neighborhood-slow-streets)

hood-slow-streets to learn more, or submit an application.

The new speed limit wouldn't be possible without the combined efforts of the Boston City Council, the Massachusetts Department of Transportation and the Massachusetts State legislature, and I thank them for their support. Making our streets the best they can be is a project that takes the cooperation of our residents, City Hall and our partners. Together, we can make Boston's streets safer and reach our goal of having zero traffic fatalities and serious injuries by 2030.

It's that time of year again!!

Please Join Us

The South Boston Citizens' Association

"The Nation's Oldest Neighborhood Civic Organization"

Thomas McGrath, President

2017 Evacuation Day Events

Jimmy Flaherty

Kickoff Breakfast

Clerk of Courts, Michael Donovan, Honorary Chairman

Where: Seapoint Restaurant

367 East 8th Street, South Boston, MA

When: Saturday, February, 25, 2017 10am-12

Breakfast Buffet & Entertainment

Suggested Donation \$ 10.00



For More Information

Check South Boston Citizens' Association on facebook

Call: Tom McGrath 1-857-204-5825

Jim Brett to receive Knights of Columbus Highest Award

On April 17th, Patriots Day, at the Annual Knights of Columbus Dinner Mr. Brett will receive the 2017 Lantern Award at the Sheraton Framingham Hotel.

Jim joins a very distinguished list of former recipients including form University of Massachusetts President William Bulger, former Mayor Ray Flynn and Cardinal Sean Patrick O'Malley.

Mr. Brett has been President & CEO of the New England Council since 1996. The Council, a nationally respected and influential regional organization, was established in 1925. It is an alliance of schools, hospitals, corporations, and other private organizations throughout New England, working together to promote economic growth and a high quality of life in the region. It identifies and supports federal policies of importance to all six states, and advocates for its mem-

bership regionally and nationally. Jim has been a leading voice in advocating for public policy issues such as health care, education, financial services and energy throughout New England and Washington, D.C. before joining the Council, Jim served for more than fifteen years as a member of the Massachusetts House of Representatives holding a succession of important leadership positions, including the chairmanship of Banking and the Committee on Taxation.

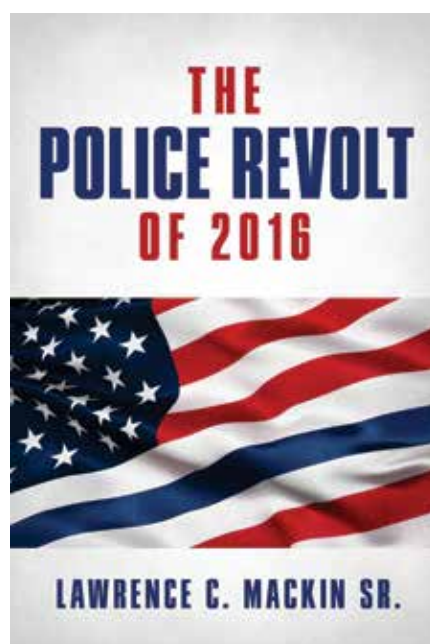
Jim served as the Chairman of The President's Committee for People with Intellectual Disabilities and continues to serve as a member. In 2016 Congress appointed Jim to the National Council on Disability. He is also Chairman of the Governor's Commission on Intellectual Disability and serves as the Chairperson of the Massachusetts Disabled Persons Protection Commission.



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The Police Revolt of 2016

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Window into the State House
Continued from page 4

come a "welcoming city," a designation OK with pro-sanctuary city advocates, reports Felicia Gans at the Globe. Proponents say "welcoming city" better describes their intent and purpose, though it can also be seen as a retreat from the "sanctuary city" tag. Just pointing it out.

But no one seems to be listening to Maura Healey

She'll probably have to say it a thousand times before it truly sinks in, so Attorney General Maura Healey may have to say tonight on WGBH's 'Greater Boston' what she reiterated yesterday on WGBH's 'Boston Public Radio': She is running for re-election. "You know as lawyers sometimes you get in the courtroom and the other side objects and they say 'asked and answered.' That's a little how I feel on this one," Healey yesterday. "I'm running for reelection." But, aha! An astute caller on the show noted how she specifically didn't mention she's not running for governor. SHNS's Colin Young at the Herald

News has more.

Tanglewood unveils \$30M expansion plan

From Clarence Fanto at the Berkshire Eagle: "The Boston Symphony Orchestra is taking the wraps off the biggest single investment in its summer home at Tanglewood since the opening of Ozawa Hall in 1994. Orchestra leaders announced Tuesday night that a \$30 million, four-building, heated and air-conditioned year-round multi-use complex — including a 200-seat performance space — will rise at the top of the lawn overlooking Ozawa Hall."

Robert Gould Shaw memorial vandalized

National Park Service and Boston Police have launched investigations after a concerned citizen reported yesterday morning that the sword was broken off on the famous Robert Gould Shaw and Massachusetts 54th Regiment Memorial across from the State House. The broken-off portion of the sword was found lying at the foot of the memorial early Tuesday morning.

REPRESENTATIVE COLLINS APPOINTED TO LEADERSHIP POSITION ON KEY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Renews focus on economic growth, job creation, housing, energy, and veterans' affairs



Last week, the House of Representatives announced committee assignments for the upcoming legislative session. State Representative Nick Collins has been assigned to serve as Vice Chairman of the Committee on Economic Development & Emerging Technologies, a key leadership role steering economic policy for the Commonwealth. In addition, he will sit on the Committees on Housing, The Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities, & Energy, and the Committee on Veterans & Federal Affairs.

As Vice Chairman of the Committee on Economic Development & Emerging Technologies, Rep. Collins will play a leadership role in crafting an important biannual economic stimulus bill which steers strategic short and long term investments designed to stimu-

late economic growth and lay framework for job creation. This committee is also tasked with shaping a wide range of policies including long-term economic growth, commercial and industrial development, innovation systems from research to development, biotechnology, and the retention of science and technology-intensive industries in Massachusetts.

In his position sitting on the Committee on Housing, Rep. Collins will be responsible for evaluating housing policy for the state, including innovative ways to address a growing need for workforce housing. The Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities & Energy will be focused on all things relating to public energy sources, including the placement of public energy facilities and utilities. Finally, with a seat on the Veterans & Federal Affairs Committee, Rep. Collins will have the opportunity to weigh in on policies that affect our veterans, and to shape policies that determine relations with the Federal Government.

"As our economy continues to grow, I look forward to shaping policy that ensures equitable growth, increased economic opportunity and access, quality of life for our veterans, and stable housing," said Rep. Collins. "I am excited to face these challenges with you, and am proud to serve as your State Representative."

Forry Statement on Assistant Majority Whip Appointment



"I am honored to be appointed Assistant Majority Whip, and thank Senate President Stan Rosenberg for recognizing my 20+ years of experience and my perspective as a working mom of four and the State's only Black Senator. I will continue to work with my colleagues to ensure Massachusetts is making policies to positively impact and improve the lives of working families. Joining Senate leadership is an opportunity to help craft an agenda reflecting the needs of individuals and families in my district and across the state."



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Athletic Director: Kevin M. Lally
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STEPHEN SULLIVAN - BRENDAN FLYNN - BRIAN DWYER

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Massport Board Approves Budget for Transportation Center

Project Will Address Transportation Challenges in Seaport District



The Massachusetts Port Authority (Massport) Board of Directors approved the anticipated budget for the planning and construction of the South Boston Waterfront Transportation Center (SBWTC). This multi-faceted project will create a transformative facility that will address some of the biggest transportation challenges facing the Seaport District, Boston's fastest growing neighborhood. Today's vote approved a total project budget of \$87,000,000.

"Massport has made and continues to maintain its commitment to im-

proving infrastructure and access to transportation options in the neighborhoods we share with residents and businesses alike," said Massport CEO Thomas P. Glynn. "The South Boston Waterfront Transportation Center will provide a hub for transportation access for the growing Seaport District and all who work in, live in and visit this growing neighborhood."

The SBWTC will consist of a 1,550-space parking facility with electric vehicle charging stations, bike share and car share options, in the heart of the Seaport District and directly adjacent to the MBTA's World Trade Center Silver Line station. The project will be designed to Massachusetts LEED

Plus (Silver minimum) standards and seek Parksmart certification through the United States Green Building Council.

This multi-level, multi-user transportation center will be constructed on a portion of Massport's Core Block parcel. Massport has been and will continue to work closely with MassDOT and the MBTA on this important addition to the Seaport District as both stakeholders, who own and operate bordering properties, and as partners in improving transportation options in Boston's neighborhoods.

The project is currently in the Final Design phase and preliminary construction has begun. Construction is expected to take approximately

16 months to complete and is anticipated to open in early 2018. During that time, nearly 970 full-time jobs are expected to be generated through direct, indirect and induced roles.

The Massachusetts Port Authority (Massport) owns and operates Boston Logan International Airport, public terminals in the Port of Boston, Hanscom Field, and Worcester Regional Airport. Massport is a financially self-sustaining public authority whose premier transportation facilities generate more than \$15 billion annually, and enhance and enable economic growth and vitality in New England. For more information please visit massport.com.



K of C Free Throw Contest

Pere Marquette Knights Of Columbus of South Boston announces its Basketball Free Throw Contest for Boys and Girls ages 9-14. The contest will be held on February 26th at

3:00PM at the P.A.L. Gym behind the South Boston Courthouse. For more information please contact Sean Monahan or Ed Flynn at edflynn254@yahoo.com or 617-269-0776.



PETER WELCH'S GYM
SOUTH BOSTON, MA

2017 March 17th Boxing Show Tryouts

Yes it's back, Tommy McGrath, President of the South Boston Citizens Association along with Peter Welch, owner of Peter Welch's Gym at 371 Dorchester Ave. South Boston, will again be sponsoring this year's March 17th Boxing Show. After a one year absents this year's show will take place on Saturday Night, March 11th at the Peter Welch's Gym, in South Boston. Admission is free of charge to all.

The South Boston Citizens' Association March 17th Boxing Show has been part of the events put together by the Citizens' Association for over 75 years, and at the request of many past and present South Boston residents, it was clear the Boxing Show has been missed, and needed to be returned.

This year's Boxing Show Chairman, Newly Elected Suffolk Register of


Deeds, Stephen Murphy, along with Peter Welch, Owner of Welch's Gym will be looking for young boxers of all ages to participate in this year's show. Every young man or ladies who participates in this year's show will be awarded a trophy.

Tryouts will be held on Tuesday's and Thursday's at 3:00pm, starting Tuesday February 7th at 3pm at the Peter Welch Gym, 371 Dorchester Ave. South Boston.

All young man or ladies will be trained by expert staff such as Peter Welch, Tommy Connors, Danny Long, Jimbo Curran. All tryouts and training are free to every young man or ladie participating in this year's show. All boxers will be matched, by age, weight, and experience and must report to the Peter Welch's Gym with a mouth-guard, shorts and sneakers...

Recent South Boston Real Estate Sales

Property/Type	Price	Sale Date	Rooms	Baths	Sq Ft
578 East Eighth Street Single Family	\$1,150,000	1/20/17	8	2.5	2600
711 East Seventh Street Single Family	\$875,000	1/17/17	9	2.5	1890
274 Athens Street Single Family	\$850,000	1/23/17	6	1	1440
275 Old Colony St UNIT 8 Condo	\$750,000	1/18/17	4	2	988
509 East Second St UNIT 3 Condo	\$730,000	1/17/17	4	2	1111
271 Gold St UNIT 1 Condo	\$700,000	1/17/17	6	2	1000
773 East Fifth st UNIT 3 Condo	\$667,500	1/20/17	4	2	1251
488 Dorchester Ave UNIT 3J Condo	\$655,000	1/20/17	3	2	1060
350 West Fourth St UNIT 410 Condo	\$511,000	1/9/17	4	1	753
743 East Fourth St UNIT 104 Condo	\$410,000	1/17/17	2	1	544
683 East Second St UNIT 2 Condo	\$385,000	1/17/17	4	1	532
655 East Second St UNIT 105 Condo	\$362,626	1/18/17	5	2	1120



Public Meeting

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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1
6:30 PM - 8:00 PM

PROJECT PROPONENT:
270 Dorchester Avenue LLC

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:
Article 80 Large Project Review for the proposal of a new 6-story building consisting of 115 residential rental units, approximately 6,590 square feet of commercial space including an underground two level parking garage with space to park up to 105 vehicles.

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ISA Certified Arborist, Brian Sullivan - Top of a Norway maple failed due to a combination of decay and wind loading. The stresses created from snow, ice and wind loads cause failures where the tree has structural defects, in this case, internal decay.

Helping Trees Recover from Damage Caused by Heavy Snow and Winds

As roads are cleared and snow begins to melt from recent winter storms, the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) cautions homeowners and clean-up crews to remember to be extremely careful when working around trees damaged by heavy snow and high winds that have been blowing through parts of New England.

Fred Perry, ISA New England chapter president, cautions, "This winter in New England homeowners and municipalities should take extra care with storm damaged trees. Working in and around trees is dangerous enough before adding slippery snow under foot and the stress of snow loads on a tree." Perry reminds New Englanders about the extreme drought in 2016 which affected parts of New England and in many areas brought the return of severe gypsy moth damage. "Last year was a tough year for our trees," adds Perry. "These conditions added stress to the trees, which in turn can weaken them. The damage can often go unseen or not thought of especially

when the tree is covered in snow."

"A major storm can do massive damage high in the treetops, posing extreme danger to people for weeks and months to come," says Jim Skiera, ISA executive director. Debris seen on the ground in a storm's aftermath is only a sign of potential overall danger associated with storm-damaged trees. According to Skiera, potential hazards and tree problems are not always obvious to the untrained eye. "Snow-damaged tree limbs can split or break in the treetops, and branches of all sizes can come crashing down at any time, especially during high winds. That's why trees should be checked from the bottom up." ISA recommends hiring an ISA Certified Arborist, to determine the full extent of storm damage.

Post-Storm Clean-Up Tips:

Do not try to do it all yourself – Never be tempted to use a ladder or an overhead chainsaw to remove damaged limbs. Hire a professional arborist for dangerous work such as pruning or removing trees, especially ones with large broken or hanging limbs.

Assess the damages – Your tree should be evaluated for overall health besides just storm damage. If the tree is basically healthy and vigorous and if major limbs, branches, and at least 50 percent of the tree's crown are still intact, then there is a good chance for complete recovery. For assistance, hire an ISA Certified Arborist to determine the tree's condition.

Beware of price gouging – Sometimes less credible tree services will take advantage of storm victims. Good tree work by qualified professionals is not inexpensive, however, poor work, no matter the price paid, can cost you a great deal. Professional prices should include liability and workman's compensation insurance as well as bucket trucks and equipment. Prices may include costs for heavier specialty equipment that may be needed such as cranes and loaders.

Hire only reputable companies – Be wary of individuals who go door-to-door and offer bargains for doing tree work. Most reputable companies are far too busy to solicit

work this way. Ask any tree care company or ISA Certified Arborist for proof of insurance before hiring them to do work on your trees. A reputable company will have personal and property damage insurance as well as worker's compensation coverage.

"Paying attention to the treetops now can prevent further damage and greater property loss later on," Skiera says. "Heavy wet snow can put major stress on a tree, and that stress can require pruning or additional support such as cables or braces, services a professional arborist can provide."

For more tips on how to care for storm damaged trees or to find a local ISA Certified Arborist, visit www.TreesAreGood.org.

About ISA

The International Society of Arboriculture (ISA), headquartered in Champaign, Ill., U.S., is a nonprofit organization supporting tree care research and education around the world. To promote the importance of arboriculture, ISA manages the consumer education

Continued on page 11



Effort to Honor Fallen World War One South Bostonians Taking Shape

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY - By Staff

Did you know that there isn't even one national monument or memorial that honors World War One veterans? Some call it the forgotten war, because so little attention is given to the 116,000 American servicemen who lost their lives do to that conflict. Here are the numbers: 116,000 perished nationwide, more than 5,000 of those were from the state of Massachusetts, and 1,100 were from the entire city of Boston, including more than 100 South Bostonians, who answered the call. Even in conflicts that long ago, the percentage of South Boston residents who put their lives on the line in defense of freedom was above the national average.

There are those who believe that the fallen from that war should have

the same recognition as the brave members of the military that are honored from all the other wars and conflicts that cost the lives of so many service members. Mary Ryan and Kevin Conroy are among a group of people who plan to give them that much deserved notoriety, particularly those who had ties to South Boston to help mark the 100 year anniversary of America's entrance into that war on April 6th, 1917.

Those who have attended or visited South Boston High School know that, located prominently in the corridor near the headmaster's office, a wooden structure stands encased in glass. Behind the glass are pictures of 101 of the 104 local residents, who perished in battle or from injuries and ailments because of it. Some of the names are familiar to most. Michael J. Perkins has a Veteran's post and a

street square named for him. Thomas Fitzgerald also has his name on one of the community veteran's posts and the Lee Playground is named in memory of Major Christopher Lee. And did you know that Logan Airport is also named for a fallen WW I veteran from Southie – General Edward Logan?

South Boston has a rich and fascinating history, when it comes to WW I and those who follow historic events and the great people who were part of it will get to learn about them on April 29th at 11am right in the South Boston High School Auditorium. The public is invited and everyone is welcome. It's being called The Ceremony to Commemorate and Honor the Memory and Sacrifice of our World War I Fallen Heroes. This will be an impressive event that will shed light on how the American

'Dough Boys' helped turn the tide of that brutal conflict in favor of the Allies. WW I was called 'The war to end all wars' at the time and is considered by some historians to be the beginning of modern warfare as the use of tanks, aircraft and even weapons of mass destruction, in the form of poison gas, were introduced for the first time in a major conflict anywhere in the world.

The more than 100 names of the fallen South Bostonians will be given recognition with some details about their lives with a formal and quite impressive ceremony on April 29th at South Boston High School. This is one event that history buffs and most everyone else as well won't want to miss. As the date gets closer and more details fall into place, South Boston Today will update our readers and keep you informed.

Helping Trees CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

web site, www.treesaregood.org, which fulfills the association's mission to help educate the public

about the importance and value of proper tree care. Also, as part of ISA's dedication to the care and preservation of shade and ornamental trees, it offers the

only internationally-recognized certification program in the industry. For more information on ISA and Certified Arborists, visit www.isa-arbor.com.

The New England Chapter of ISA promotes professional arboriculture, research, and awareness of the benefits of trees in New England. Learn more at www.newenglandisa.org.

JOHN CICCONE CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

ridicule by the media, Hollywood and of course, leftist college professors. You are called a hater, if you disagree with them on any issue.

I think most people suspect that many elected officials, including on the national, state and local levels have for years allowed themselves to be guided by - bullied is a more accurate word - what might be said about them in the press. Even when they think something is right or wrong, they might alter their stands or change their decisions regarding certain issues because they are afraid of reading a negative story about themselves or that

they might be the target of a scathing editorial.

Up until now, this is how many, not all, in the mainstream media have operated. They don't want to report the news, they want to run the show. They've always believed that they should be in charge of policy and if the public or officials did not tow their line, they would become victims of that vindictive press. They ruled by intimidated and, more often than not, got their way because people feared them. Well, now it is those in the press who are afraid. President Trump has shown that he does not need them. He can use social media to accurately get his message out or gather tens of thousands in a crowd on short notice and

speak directly to them in person.

Other elected officials around the country are standing up as well and are finally letting the press know that they answer to the people who elected them, not to an editorial board or an ego driven leftist reporter with a microphone and a camera. Honest surveys are showing that the news media has serious trust issues and are increasingly disliked. Can they ever get back some of that credibility that they have lost? That will probably depend on whether they can admit to themselves that they are the problem and change or if those egos will even allow them to change.

I wouldn't bet on it.



Youth Ambassadors Random Acts of Kindness ♥ A Gift of Hearts ♥

In celebration of Random Acts of Kindness and Valentines Week, a display of beautiful hearts has been hung on the trees in front of the Area C-6 Police Station

on West Broadway. The hearts were created by youth from the South Boston Community Health Center's Youth Ambassadors program, the Tierney Learning

Center's Girl Scout Troop 55456 and the South Boston Youth Council. Boys from the Cushing House generously donated their time to hang up the hearts. This

is the tenth consecutive year that young people have completed this community art project.

The Hearts of Kindness Project is an initiative designed to promote goodwill in South Boston and to recognize the positive effects that youth have on our community. The project is organized by the Youth Ambassadors at the South Boston Community Health Center.

Youth were asked to reflect on their lives and document acts of kindness by creating fabric hearts that are displayed for all of South Boston to see. The hearts symbolize the caring nature of South Boston youth and the ways they share their talents with the community. Each heart represents an act of kindness performed by the youth that created the heart. Many are stuffed with small pieces of paper that describes the act of kindness.

We would like to send a special thanks to Area C-6 police Captain Joseph Boyle, officers and staff for their support of South Boston youth in this and many other projects.

If you would like more information about this project, please contact Mayra Rodriguez-Howard 617-464-7423 or Linda Doran 617-464-7463 at the South Boston Community Health Center – Youth Ambassadors program.

Winter Gala in Memory of Donny Higgins, Success!

The Second Annual Winter Gala in memory of the late Donny Higgins drew a crowd of more than 500 people last Saturday night. The event was such a big success and a wonderful evening that plans are already being discussed for next year's 3rd annual. And it was no surprise that there was such an enthusiastic turnout to honor the memory of a truly great person. Just to know Donny Higgins was to call him friend. This event was organized by 'Friends of Donny Higgins' who work hard keeping the memory of their cherished friend alive so that dozens of worthy charities may benefit.

The gala was held at the Westin Boston Waterfront Hotel's ballroom. All tickets were sold in advance and they were bought up quickly. In addition to honoring the memory

of this great man, fun was the theme of the evening as the crowd was entertained by 'North Shore Acapella' and the 'Decades by Dezyne' band. For three hours, the crowd was treated to fabulous food and drink to go with the great entertainment and 18 fantastic raffle prizes were given out, including a \$10,000 cash Grand Prize, which was won by Jacky Woods.

More than \$106,000 dollars was raised which will be distributed to many Boston area youth sports organizations, for both boys and girls. Among the South Boston groups that receive donations from the money raised are the Harry McDonough Sailing Center, South Boston Youth Hockey, the Tynan and Condon Community after school programs and many more. Practically every sport from boxing

to girls' softball benefits from this dedicated organization.

South Boston Today spoke with Billy Higgins Jr., Donny's brother and asked what his reaction was to the massive turnout in honor of Donny's memory. He said the following: "My self and the entire Higgins family are overwhelmed, humbled and forever grateful for the outpouring of love and support that continues to be shown for Donny." He went on to thank and to praise the fantastic job the Friends of Donny Higgins committee does, among them Paul Kostas, Cathy Carter and Jayne Costello for all the worthy charities that their efforts are able to help.

Donny Higgins was such a good guy. A great son to his parents and brother to his siblings, a caring and loving family man to his to

his own wife and children and an all-around good friend to all who had the honor and pleasure to know him. He was a dedicated part of the community, whose continuing efforts on behalf of his neighborhood helped many. The street hockey rink on Farragut Rd., which Don worked hard and lobbied extensively to make possible, which today bears his name was just one result of all the work he did on behalf of others in his continuing efforts to make everyone's life just that much better. He inspired countless people with his positive, upbeat attitude and welcoming smile. It is a fitting tribute to the memory of this good man who was taken at much too young an age that he is remembered so fondly by so many and will continue to be forever.



GATE OF HEAVEN C.Y.O. ANNUAL FUNDRAISER & AWARDS

On Saturday, February 25th, the Gate of Heaven C.Y.O.'s 30th Annual Fundraiser will be held in the Gate of Heaven Lower Church Hall, beginning at 5:00 p.m. with cocktails and hors d'ouvres. During the event the annual Rev. Paul V. Donovan, Rev. A. Paul White and Jack McDonough Awards will be presented.

The Rev. A. Paul White Award is presented annually to a woman in our community whose dedication and commitment has had a positive impact on the youth and families of the South Boston Community. This year's recipient is Patricia Strumm. Tricia is the Gate of Heaven & Saint Brigid Parish Secretary who handles many different aspects of parish life from booking Baptisms, Weddings and Masses to filing mail, to coordinating Funerals. As a life-long parishioner Tricia is great to have around having personal knowledge of many of the old families from South Boston, those who still live here and those who have moved but return for many of the services the church provides. You've probably spoken to her if you've called or have gone by the Parish office. Tricia does it all and with a smile. Over the years, taking after her mother Peggy Collins, Tricia was always available to help out with any parish function from the bazaar, school events and fundraisers. Congratulations to Tricia and her family on receiving the 2014 Rev. A. Paul White Award.

The Rev. Paul V. Donovan Award for the parish Outstanding Catholic Youth is presented annually to a person who exemplifies the best of what it means to live out the Catholic faith in today's society. The criteria used in

selecting the recipient are based on participation in parish C.Y.O. activities, on church attendance, and on personal characteristics which evidence a commitment to the Christian faith. This award is presented as an expression of our pride in the youth of our community.

The 2016 Outstanding Catholic Youth Female Award will be presented to Maggie Hart. Maggie is a senior at The Winsor School in Boston and is the daughter of Jack & Michele Hart of G Street.

The 2016 Outstanding Catholic Youth Male Award will be presented to Matthew Hogan. Matthew is a senior and attends Archbishop Williams High School in Braintree and is the son of Michael & Valerie Hogan. Congratulations to this year's recipients and we wish them all the best of luck now and in all their future endeavors.

The Jack McDonough Award is presented annually to the outstanding male member of our community, who exemplifies Christianity in today's society and the goals of the Gate of Heaven C.Y.O. and its Alumni Association. This year's recipient is Al Florentino. Al has been vibrant member of the Gate of Heaven Parish ever since he married his wife Karen and moved to Southie. After a hard day at work, 30 years as a letter carrier, Al has been involved

with coaching C.Y.O. & BNBL basketball and youth soccer. Before that while living in Somerville Al coached Babe Ruth, Pop Warner football and hockey. Currently Al is the president of the Parish St. Vincent DePaul Society and has been a member of that organization for over 20 years. Before that Al helped run the Gatey \$1000 a Month Club for over 10 years. Al and his wife Karen have always been available for any parish function from bazaars and fundraisers to C.Y.O. cookouts. We thank Al for all his help over the years and the great things he does for his Parish, community and the youth of South Boston and beyond.

We congratulate him and his family for being selected this year's Jack McDonough Award recipient.

There are still tickets available for this Annual Fundraiser and it has always been a great night out for a good cause with Kenny Morrell providing the entertainment. Our thanks to all our friends, sponsors, coaches, and parents who have continually supported the Gate of Heaven C.Y.O. programs. We look forward to working together in the future to continue building a great program for our youth and hope to see a full house this Saturday night. You can contact any Coach, Committee member, Kevin Lally (617-943-5238) or Touchie McDonough (617-792-8570) for more info or tickets.

Boston Athletic Club Continued from front page

racquetball courts. Handball, for sure, and racquetball by extension and reputation are, arguably South Boston Traditions. The others space at risk is what were the former tennis courts that had been converted and now being used as a field house of sorts accommodating a variety of activities. The field house, we understand, has also been available to South Boston Little League and other programs that an indoor facility can be useful to maintain practice levels off season.

The conversion plans do not sit well with a cadre of members that

have made the BAC a center of both their social and health related interests. Former Mayor Ray Flynn, a regular user of the BAC, weighed in on this topic last week in his op-ed column in the Boston Herald, dubbing the BAC as "our Mar-A-Lago. He went on to name the legends of South Boston, who are still active and enjoy the atmosphere that engenders friendship, not to mention assures some longevity. Flynn named "Richie Dahill, Joe Ryan, Marty Connolly, John De Marco, Jimbo Daley, Ronny Lescinskas and of course Leo Mahoney."

The BAC has always been a neighborhood club. History and collective

memories show that its survival during the tough times can be traced to the loyalty of its inaugural membership of South Boston residents dating to the 1970s.

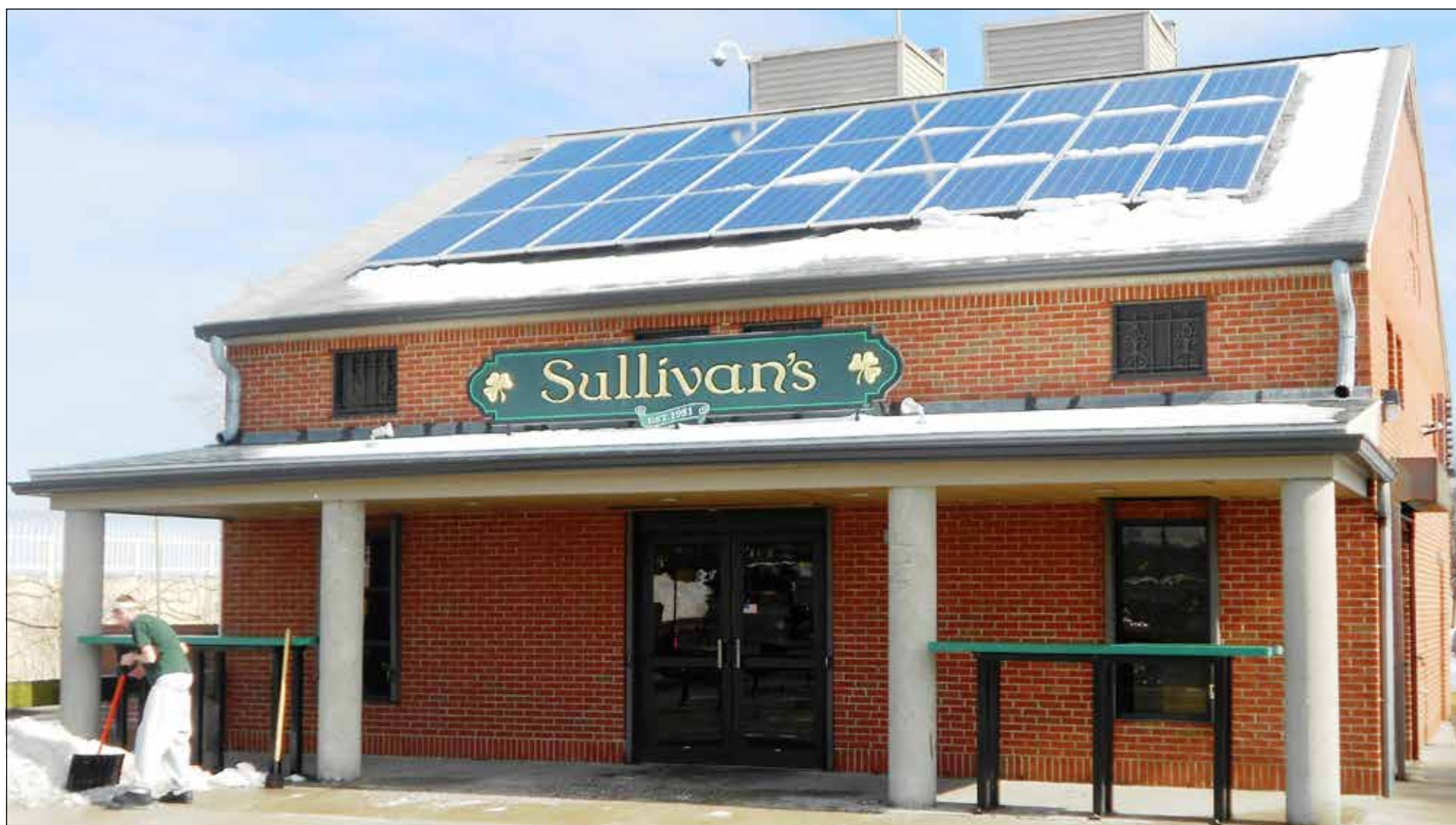
South Boston Today has placed calls into Massport and the elected officials to ascertain the status of the arrangement that the BAC has with Massport, the owners of property that the Pappas Company leases. Pappas Companies have owned their properties for many years but enjoy the enhancements provided by a cooperating public authority, namely, Massport. Our reporter plans to speak with the BAC manager as well.

SBT plans a follow up to this story

as we expect to hear from the interested parties. Like many institutions in South Boston that have been leveraged for someone's narrow benefit, it is more than a symbol of changing times, it often becomes just an unfortunate and short-sighted affront to those who have been loyal. The adage, 'dance with the one that brung ya', is apropos for this story. The romance may not last forever but respect and embrace the faithful ones as long as it can last.

If you care to weigh in with us on this story, please do so online at info@southbostontoday.com

We will also pass along your concerns to our elected officials as well.



Is it Spring Yet? Must Be. Sully's Opens This Saturday

Ok, so by comparison, this winter was/is pretty mild. Compared to 2 years ago, it was almost as if it really never arrived, that is until the 2 weeks ago. Officially, we have another couple of weeks of winter, according to the calendar. But in South Boston as we all know it doesn't matter what the calendar says. Spring arrives the day Sullivan's Restaurant or 'Sully's', as it's affectionately known to locals, opens for business. This Saturday, February 25th is the day and no matter what the weather, hordes of the hungry are expected to descend upon this most famous destination.

Celebrating more than 60 years in operation at Castle Island, Sullivan's has become one of the best-known landmarks for miles around. Yes, tourists come to Boston to walk the 'Freedom Trail', take a ride on the Duck Tour boats and visit Faneuil Hall, but a trip to Sully's for some of the finest food around is often on the itinerary whether you come from Telegraph Street or Tennessee.

Most locals know the story of how Sullivan's came to be. Dan Sullivan

Sr. opened it back in 1951. His goal was to give the customers great food for reasonable prices. Add in quick and friendly service and you have the recipe for success. If you've ever seen the lines on a warm summer's day, you know how popular the place is and how quickly a long line moves.

It's now 2017 and Sullivan's has come a long way since it first opened these more than 6 decades ago. It moved from one part of Castle Island to the other and increased in size as it was rebuilt and remodeled.

Current owner Brendan Sullivan has installed state of the art technology for taking your order and serving you even faster than ever. But the food, like always is worth making the trek to the island because it is so tasty. Each year the menu gets a little bigger. The old standbys are of course their wildly popular hot dogs (called 'snappers' by some), hamburgers, fries and onion rings. They have a great sea food selection; including lobster, chicken, their famous grilled cheese sandwiches and other traditional items you'd expect to see at a restaurant near the

beach. But they also have salads, smoothies, ice cream and yogurt treats and a variety of drinks. And what everything on the menu has in common is that all of it is delicious.

Heading to Sullivan's for a meal, a snack or just for something hot or cold to drink is always a good experience, not just for the great food. Being greeted and served by some of the friendlies, most competent staff that can be found anywhere adds to the pleasant experience. As you approach the counter to place your order you are met by some of the nicest people around - hard workers all. They work as a team, they enjoy their jobs and each other's company and it shows; no matter how crowded it gets. A quote from one of the managers, Chris Lane from last season carries over to this season as well says it all. "I love my job. As General Manager, my proudest accomplishment is watching our employees succeed. For over 25 years, I have worked side by side with owner Brendan Sullivan. We share the same philosophy - we want this to be a place where

our employees grow and learn, we provide quality food at reasonable prices and you will want to return again and again."

Then of course there's Manager Harry Markarian, who has been with Sullivan's for more than 40 years. Harry is that familiar face that so often greets you at the counter with a big smile and hello and even though he deals with thousands of customers; has this amazing ability to remember so many names. His guiding presence at the counter seems to motivate even more, an already motivated staff working hard to serve you and make sure your order comes out just right.

It all comes together at Sullivan's to make this a truly unique destination. Great food, great service and a great crew to serve you insures that a trip to 'Sully's on the Island' will always be fun and a good experience that as Chris Lane says "will make sure you'll want to return again and again."

So, mark the date, this Saturday, February 25th, Sully's is open for business. Halleluia!!!



*This week,
Danny previewed
the NBA
Trade Deadline
with Slaine:*

DANNY PICARD: The NBA trade deadline is Thursday at 3 p.m. DeMarcus Cousins was traded to the New Orleans Pelicans after the All-Star Game. Here's the deal: Cousins to the Pelicans for Buddy Hield, Tyreke Evans, Langston Galloway, a 2017 first-round pick, and a 2017 second-round pick. That is an absolute steal for the New Orleans Pelicans. You look at the trade, and you think, what else could they have got out there, around the NBA. This is an absolute steal for the Pelicans.

SLAINE: Well let's forget about the Celtics angle for right now. Why — if you're the Sacramento Kings — do you take a trade on Sunday night, when you still have four days to go until the trade deadline, when you have interest, probably, from the Lakers, the Celtics, Orlando? So as the trade deadline nears, you would assume the offers are going to go up because they are competing offers. Why would they pull up four days shy?

DP: You mention the Celtics. Here's my theory with the Celtics. I think, and this plays off of a tweet that Ric Bucher sent out, saying the Celtics are too focused on Jimmy Butler. And I think that's where we stand. That's

where the Celtics stand. They are, right now, focused on a real trade, that they thought was real. I don't think that this means the Celtics didn't want Cousins, which is what a lot of people are saying. They're saying, "Well, it just goes to show you that they didn't want this kid. They weren't willing to give up anything for him."

No, I think the Celtics — having already inquired about Cousins several times and getting no deal for him, and hearing all these rumors and nothing going through — I actually think the Celtics didn't want to waste their time on some stupid trade talk. They want to be serious, and if they're all-in on one player right now, someone like Jimmy Butler, and there are serious talks, then why would you want to get up and leave that negotiation table to go talk with Sacramento about a trade that you don't even know if they're seriously willing to move him? I just don't think the Celtics wanted to waste their time, if they already have a deal that they're all-in on. Sure, the Celtics could have given up a lot more than what New Orleans gave up. And to be honest, I'm a big Cousins fan, I would have liked to see that. But,

if you are already locked in to a deal that you might be close on, and it's Jimmy Butler, who's an All-Star player and an elite scorer from the wing who puts up 25 points a night that I would love to see on this Celtics team, I don't think you can walk away and risk losing that deal, to try and talk about a trade for a guy that you don't even know the Kings are going to move. I just don't know that the Celtics had a clear grasp on the Sacramento situation, to where, the trade deadline is at 3 o'clock on Thursday, and there's a lot of work to be done. And if they're already talking to Chicago and working things out there, to me, there's no need to walk away from that. As good as Cousins is, there's no need to walk away from that, because I think that if the Celtics add Jimmy Butler, I think they can contend and compete with Cleveland.

SLAINE: You don't get by Cleveland with Jimmy Butler. The reality is, you have to beat Cleveland and then Golden State. We're talking about building a championship team here. So if we get Jimmy Butler, we still need a dominant big man.

DP: A dominant big man, or

somebody that's serviceable enough. I know that people say the Celtics need rebounding and they need that shot blocker. I don't think Al Horford is getting enough credit for the type of shot-blocking ability he has. I know he likes to be on the outside, and I know he likes to shoot, but I just don't think Horford is getting enough credit for his defense, which I think is better than what people see on a box score. I think that if you get into a seven-game playoff series with Cleveland, with this Celtics team, as currently constituted, and you lose that series, I don't think we're going to be talking about rebounding and defense. I think we're going to be talking about the Celtics didn't have that other elite scorer. If they played the Cavaliers and lost, I don't know that the issue would be rebounding or defense. I think the issue would be, you didn't have that other guy who could keep up with Kyrie Irving and LeBron James. You didn't have that other guy — when Isaiah Thomas gets double-teamed — that can score, that can have a big offensive game.

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