



South Boston Non-Profits’ Program Funding Vetoed

The Massachusetts House and Senate recently approved a compromise \$40 Billion budget that included funds for many South Boston programs including Julie’s Family Learning Center, the Gavin Foundation, South Boston Community Health Center, Laboure Center, the South Boston Neighborhood House,

South Boston En Accione and the South Boston Collaborative Center. These funds fill a crucial gap in the budget of each of these organizations and are earmarked for ongoing and advanced programs that are important to the client population being served.

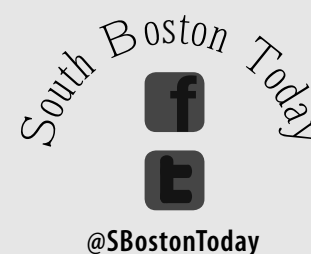
However, there are no guarantees and following a pattern of recent bud-

get uncertainties, the Governor vetoed all of the South Boston programs, each of whom rely on the funding. The state budget passed in July with overwhelming support in both the House of Representatives and the Senate. Now the efforts to reinstate these crucial funds has just begun, but the burden of affect-

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EDITORIAL

Our Fellow Americans in Texas Need Our Help

You can't turn on any form of media without seeing and hearing about the terrible disaster hitting Texas in the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey. Countless families have lost their homes; their business's and in some cases a loved one in the winds and heavy rains that are causing flooding of unimaginable proportions. Texans are a proud people

but most importantly, Texans are famous for their generosity and willingness to come to the aid of not only people living in their own state, but anywhere and everywhere else in the nation where fellow Americans need assistance. It's what Americans do. There are many of our readers expressing the will to help in a variety of ways from making donations

of supplies and money to even travelling south to volunteer to help in rescue and even rebuilding efforts in what will be a long process.

Here at South Boston Today we've done some inquiring as to the best organizations to contact to offer help. Among the many organizations working hard; which include religious groups, government agencies and

charities are 3 that Texas authorities we've spoke to highly recommend. They are Southern Baptist Texas Disaster Relief at 615-244-2355, The Salvation Army at 1-800-725-2769 and Rev. Graham's Samaritans' Purse at 828-262-1980. These groups have thousands of volunteers on the ground already but still need more help in whatever form it may come.



"By all these lovely tokens, September days are here. With summer's best of weather and autumn's best of cheer." - Helen Hunt Jackson



Letter to the Editor

Ed Flynn is the best choice for the District 2 City Councilor, because he has the experience and the temperament to represent all of District 2, including our home neighborhood of South Boston. I've known Ed my whole life, and I've seen him evolve into the man he is today. He is a dedicated father and husband, active member in his community, and role model for the kids he coaches and men-

tors. One thing that sets Ed apart is that he takes every aspect of his life seriously -- his family, his neighborhood, his military service, and his work helping people in the criminal justice system get their lives on the right track.

It's this level of commitment that District 2 needs in their next City Councilor. I know Ed will actively represent all residents in all communities in the district, and be a

strong voice for those in need. Why? Because as Ed frequently says, "We are all in this together."

I hope you will join me in supporting Ed Flynn on September 26 and November 7, because he will treat all residents with the attention and fairness they deserve. Ed Flynn understands the issues that are impacting our communities, and he has the vision to get things done for Boston.

Eddie Downs
South Boston

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The Information Center



Is Anyone Offended By Admiral Farragut Yet?

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY
John Ciccone

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

With so many things happening lately, I thought I'd make this a 'short takes' column and briefly touch on several topics. We'll start with a quote going around social media: "Last weekend in Chicago, there were 33 shooting and stabbings. Which statues are we blaming?" This of course is making fun of the rabid frenzy some find themselves caught up in, as they try to erase our country's history.

My question is, how soon can we expect some loon to decide that he or she is offended, for whatever reason, by Admiral Farragut's statue across from Pleasure Bay and demand it be taken down? And which official will take it under advisement and agree?

Canada has finally gotten a dose of reality. Or more specifically, that

nation's snow flake new leader Justin Trudeau has. Trudeau and members of his liberal party were calling the United States and President Trump cruel and insensitive, because Trump has shut down our southern border and has begun deporting illegal immigrants. In response, Trudeau announced that Canada would welcome all, who wanted to come and invited those living illegally in America to his country. Well, be careful what you wish for, because come they did. The flow of illegals fleeing America and entering Canada became more of a flood and in just a few months has put a burden on Canada's economy and is causing a number of other serious problems. Now Trudeau, so flustered that several of the hairs on his head were actually out of place, has put the brakes on his invitation

and is now insisting that immigration to his country must follow the rule of law. Hey, that sounds familiar.

You see, it's easy for the Canadians to be all for open borders and the invasion of illegals, when it's happening to America. But, now that it has shifted to Canada, it changes their attitudes up there completely. Funny how that worked out.

Now moving to the ludicrous. Just when we thought 'progressives' ran out of things to label as racist, they come up with newer, even sillier, targets. One college professor has proclaimed that the solar eclipse two weeks ago was racist. Why? Because the path that it took across the country, where it could be viewed as a total eclipse went across a part of America where relatively few African Americans live. So, by the

professor's logic, the sun and the moon must have conspired to deprive people of color of the chance to see the best of this historical event. Will the ACLU file suit?

At the University of Southern California (where else?), there is a move on to ban the school football team mascot – a beautiful horse named 'Traveler'. Why? Because Traveler was the name of Civil War General Robert E. Lee's horse and some students were 'triggered' and offended by this. And there are school administration officials, who are actually taking this demand serious. And speaking of Robert E. Lee, will ESPN ever live down their decision to remove an Asian American sportscaster from announcing a game, because his name is Robert **continued on page 4**

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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.

Helping hands reach Texas

Help is flowing from the Boston area to the coast of Texas, where President Trump plans to visit Tuesday even as former hurricane Harvey continues to unleash unprecedented rainfall and flooding. Houston's Democratic mayor is already extending thanks to his Boston counterpart for assistance and the Cape Ann town of Rockport, meanwhile, is extending a hand to the Texas town with the same name that was in the direct path of the storm as it came ashore, the Gloucester Times reports.

Meanwhile, Shira Schoenberg of MassLive asks the question we probably don't want to hear the answer to: Could a hurricane Harvey happen in Massachusetts? Mark Herz of WGBH has details on how members of the Mass. National Guard are assisting in

storm relief by using imaging technology to steer rescue crews in the right direction. Patriots Owner Robert Kraft personally pledged \$1 million to match donations to the American Red Cross **Baker plans to steer way around GOP Senate primary**

Gov. Charlie Baker is going to stay well out of the way of the GOP senate primary next year, because ... well, why would he go anywhere near it? Baker says he stays out of primaries "as a general rule and I certainly won't get involved with that one," State House News Service's Andy Metzger and Matt Murphy report. With Trump backers Geoff Diehl and Shiva Ayyadurai likely competing against moderates such as John Kingston and Beth Lindstrom who like Baker

have sought to keep Trump at arm's length, the primary has the potential for collateral political damage for anyone, even the country's most popular governor.

Logan fee plan reverberates locally, nationally

MassPort's plan to study whether to charge vehicles that are arriving at Logan Airport to pick up or drop off airline passengers is making national headlines and becoming a hot topic on talk radio. Adam Vaccaro of the Globe reports that the Conservation Law Foundation will help study how such a fee would impact traffic congestion at the airport. The study is part of a larger agreement between MassPort and the CLF over a plan to add 5,000 more parking spaces at the airport.

Funding Vetoed

continued from front page

ing the political process and making the case for these programs over the interests of competing programs statewide must be a priority of each stakeholder.

When reached, Senator Linda Forry stated, "We strongly advocated and secured funding for several nonprofit organizations that provide critical support services for families in South Boston. Representative Nick Collins and I are committed to making sure these organizations continue to receive the resources they need to serve the most vulnerable members of our community."

Representative Nick Collins said, "We worked very hard to secure support in this year's budget for South Boston programs and we need to work together to ensure that these critical resources get restored."

Bob Monahan, the Executive Director of Julie's Learning Center stated, "In some cases the government seems to be turning its back on those in need. Julie's deals with people willing to work hard and do what it takes to make sure their children have access to a better education and a better life than they had. They are not looking for handouts".

Monahan went on to say that government continues to move the goal post on eligibility qualification requirements. He further acknowledged that "it is clear that the funding provided by the state enables Julie's and the other nonprofits to reach out to and to help more families."

In addition to speaking with Senator Forry, Representative Collins and Director Monahan, South Boston Today has contacted many of the programs for their reaction to this revelation of the vetoes, but at deadline, this reporter hadn't received further responses.

Lobbying on behalf of one's legitimate interest is embedded in the framing of the Constitution by the founding fathers. In 1788, James Madison acknowledged as much in the Federalist Papers. This includes non-profit organizations, their board members and their constituencies, as well as citizens in general and business interests.

Gubernatorial veto overrides are expected to be taken up in early September and there is time for South Boston non-profits to weigh in. SBT will be following this effort.

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John Ciccone

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Lee, which too closely resembles the same 150-year-old dead general that got Traveler the horse in trouble?

And now a word about the meltdown going on over President Trump's pardon of Arizona Sheriff Joe Arpaio. Whatever your opinion on the pardon, we can't help but notice that these very same people, whose heads are exploding over it, did not utter a word when Obama set 1700 hardened criminals free from prison, including violent crack dealers, gun runners, human smugglers etc. And they didn't make a sound, when Obama was letting terrorists out of Gitmo to go back to the battle field and resume killing Americans; or when he pardoned Chelsea Manning after being convicted of leaking military secrets, while he was in the Army. None of this seemed to bother the screamers having strokes and melt downs over the Arpaio pardon in the least. Could it be that the outrage they feel is politically motivated? Does water flow downhill? Sometimes you just have to roll your eyes, shake your head and laugh. It's becoming quite a show out there.



The SB Vietnam Memorial Committee Has A Request

As the preparations are being made for the 36th Annual Rededication Ceremony for the South Boston Vietnam War Memorial on September 10th, the Memo-

rial Committee is asking for help in locating family members of South Boston's Medal of Honor recipients.

Though these recipients have all passed on, the committee will honor

their memories at the event. If they can be located, the family members will be recognized at the ceremony.

The names of the recipients are George Nee, Frank Walker and Mi-

chael J. Perkins. If anyone knows the whereabouts and or how to contact family members of these American heroes, you are asked to please contact Tom Lyons at 781-953-9662.

South Boston Vietnam Memorial 36th Anniversary

The South Boston Vietnam Memorial Committee extends an invitation to the South Boston Community and friends to attend the Thirty-Sixth Anniversary of the South Boston Vietnam Memorial on Sunday, September 10, 2017. We dedicate this year's ceremony to the three South Boston Medal of Honor recipients; **Pvt. George H. Nee USA, Pvt. Frank O. Walker, USA and PFC Michael J. Perkins, USA.**

Thirty-Six years ago, the promise we made to the Twenty-Five of our fallen friends and to the community were realized. The people of South

Boston were among the very first to recognize the sacrifice the Vietnam Veterans made in the name of freedom. We will forever be proud of this.

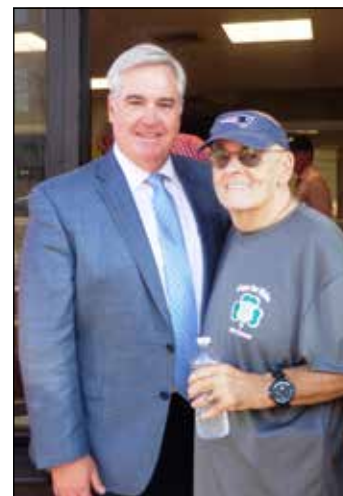
The people of South Boston built that monument. Building it, however, was only half of the pledge we made to ourselves. The other half is inscribed across the face of the memorial: **If you forget my death, then I died in vain.**

The days' activities will begin with a Memorial Mass at St. Brigid Church at 10:30 am followed by the rededication ceremony at Medal of Honor Park at 11:30 am. Our special guests will be **General George Casey, Medal of**



Honor recipients Tom Kelley, Barney and Ryan Pitts along with Governor Charlie Baker and Mayor Marty Walsh.

Please join us on this special day of remembrance



Flaherty Opens South Boston Campaign Headquarters

Boston City Councilor at-large Michael Flaherty greeted well-wishers and volunteers last Wednesday evening, as he opened his South Boston re-election campaign headquarters

on East Broadway, one of several around the city. A steady flow of people turnout and stopped by throughout the evening as supporters, including many new voters came by to wish him well and

signed up to help out in the effort.

Delicious food and soft drinks were served to everyone. Enthusiasm was running high among the crowds that turned out and everyone seemed to be having a good time. Long-time

residents and new arrivals became acquainted with one another and enjoyed each other's company, as well as having informative conversations with the popular Councilor Flaherty himself and members of his campaign.



dedication of the national Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C. by 13 months - and honors 25 men from South Boston who gave their lives during the Vietnam War. South Boston suffered the highest loss of KIA for a community of its size in the country.

The South Boston Vietnam Memorial was dedicated on Sept. 13, 1981, and a rededication ceremony is held every September.

The 25 men honored on the South Boston Vietnam Memorial are: **Joseph J. Agri, LCpl USMC; Charles A. Bazzinotti, 1stLt USA; Richard J. Borovick, SP4 USA; John C. Calhoun, LCpl USMC; John H. Cole, PFC USMC; Paul M. Daley, SP6 USA; Ronald L. Delverde, PFC USMC; Joseph F. Desmond, PFC USMC; Joseph W. Dunn, PFC USMC; Devon M. Enman, Sgt USA; Gene D. Grover, SSgt USMC; Frank C. Hubicsak, PFC USA; Douglas J. Itri, SP5 USA; John P. Jacobs, Cpl USMC; John G. Joyce, Cpl USA; Edward W. Milan, Sgt USAF; James O'Toole, PFC USA; Burton Peterson, LCpl USMC; Paul H. Sheehan, 1stSgt USMC; James J. Stewart, PFC USMC; Edward Stone, PFC USMC; Edward M. Sullivan, PFC USMC; Joseph Thomas, E. PFC USMC; Donald J. Turner, LCpl USMC; James K. Wheeler, SP6 USA.**

36th Anniversary of the South Boston Vietnam Memorial

South Boston will celebrate the 35th Anniversary of the South Boston Vietnam Memorial located in Medal of Honor Park on Sunday, September 10, 2017.

A Memorial Mass will be held in St. Brigids Church, 841 East Broadway, South Boston, at 10:30 a.m., followed by an 11:30 a.m. rededication ceremony at the South

Boston Vietnam Memorial in Medal of Honor Park. Our keynote speaker will be General George Casey, U.S. Army, former Chief of Staff of the Army,

Also attending the rededication ceremony will be the families of the 25 men from South Boston who were killed in action during the Vietnam War, Medal of Honor recipients

Tom Kelley and Ryan Pitts, along with many of the South Boston Vietnam Veterans. We are dedicating this year's ceremony in memory of the three South Boston Medal of Honor recipients.

The South Boston Vietnam Memorial was among America's first formal memorial for Vietnam Veterans - predating the



General George W. Casey, Jr. (U.S. Army, Retired)

General George Casey enjoyed a 41-year career in the US Army following his graduation from Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service in 1970. He is an accomplished soldier and an authority on strategic leadership.

As the Army Chief of Staff from 2007-2011, he led one of our largest and most complex organizations during one of the most extraordinary periods in our history. From July 2004 to February 2007, he commanded the Multi-National Force - Iraq, a coalition of more than 30 countries where he guided the mission through

its toughest days.

Currently, he lectures internationally on leadership to the leaders of national and multinational corporations, at the Johnson School of Management, Cornell University, and at other business schools.

He holds a Master's Degree in International Relations from Denver University, and served as a Senior Fellow at the Atlantic Council of the United States. He has published a book, *Strategic Reflections, Operation Iraqi Freedom*, July 2004-2007 (October 2012), about his experiences in Iraq.

The Wine Guy



Springtime Down Under

It's getting cooler with each passing day (and night!) and it won't be long before the heat is on and fireplaces will start crackling. Quite a different story is unfolding half a world away, however; in the Southern Hemisphere, vineyards from Chile to South Africa and everywhere in between will start to come alive with first flowerings and new vintages of red wines will soon be available here in the U.S.

One of the regions that I haven't written about this summer season is Australia and it's not because there isn't a lot to cover. This country/continent is one of the world's largest wine producers, with production last year of about 1.5 billion litres of wine; over 30 million glasses of Australian wine are served every day, worldwide.

In the Barossa Valley, located in South Australia, there are over

150 wineries and vineyards and the area began producing wines back in the late 1830's. One of the most productive areas, Fleurieu, reminds visitors of Paso Robles in California. Hot and dry with chalky soil, the region produces world-class Shiraz wines in the McLaren Vale and Cabs from Langhorne Creek.

Beresford Wines, while new to the producing side (1985) is making huge reds, especially Shiraz. The Beresford Classic McLaren Vale Shiraz, 2015, (\$22.99), is big and bold, with layers of blackcurrant and plums on the nose and ripe cherry and earthy tones that are mouth-filling; the finish is very long and no wonder, as the alcohol level is 16.5%.

The Beresford Classic McLaren Vale GSM (Grenache Shiraz Mourvedre) 2015, (\$23.99), is an Australian salute to the Rhone

Valley in France. Like the great reds there, this wine had body as well as balance, with clove and mint notes, as well as dense flavors of dried berries and some vanilla; also, a very long and layered finish.

Both of these wines pair extremely well with grilled red meats, lamb and boar; hearty cheeses and spicy Asian cuisine also work.

In the Langhorne Creek area of Fleurieu, several miles inland from the Vale, this lightly-populated town (668 people!) is home to scores of vineyards. One of the most interesting is Kimbolton Vineyards, where the Case family has been making wine and adding to the acreage since 1911.

Their Kimbolton Fig Tree 2014 Cabernet Sauvignon, (\$22.99), is a classic Southern Australia Cab; bright notes of mulberries, chocolate/mint and dusty oak on the nose. The palate swirls with ripe

red and black fruits and cassia and mint fill the mouth, framed by elegant dusty tannins, all complemented by the use of only the best French Oak. This wine is in for the long haul and the family expects it will cellar till 2028.

Bleasdale Vineyards is one of Langhorne's oldest-167 years and six generations- that offer a wide range of levels and types of wine. Chief among them are the Cabs and one in particular, the 2014 Mulberry Tree Cabernet Sauvignon, (\$17.99), is an elegant wine with aromas of mixed berries, dark chocolate and violets. The palate is smooth with blackcurrant and spicy oak flavors and finishes with fine chalky tannins. It's one to have with your first Prime Rib or Lamb roast. You'll want more than one, though!

NEXT WEEK: Argentina's "Red Standard".

Talk to The Wine Guy at jdri8888@gmail.com

Collins Sisters to Cheerlead for the NE Patriots at Gillette Stadium



Two well-known South Boston natives and former cheerleaders for the New England Patriots Linda Collins and her sister Joanne Collins Buonamano have returned home from Las Vegas to join 220 other members of the New England Patriots Cheerleaders Alumni in a special performance at Gillette Stadium today, August 31st.

The New England Patriots Cheerleader Alumni, which is made up of cheerleaders from the 1960's to the present day, will put on a special pre-game performance. The Collins sisters have been residing in Las Vegas for many years. They have been invited to take part in what should be a fantastic event. 'Go Pats' and welcome home and good luck to both Linda and Joanne.

Recent South Boston Real Estate Sales

Property/Type	Price	Sale Date	Rooms	Baths	Sq Ft
515 East First St UNIT 5 Condo	\$1,175,000	6/23/17	4	2.5	1750
152 M St UNIT 2 Condo	\$985,000	6/26/17	5	3	1827
584 East Third St UNIT302 Condo	\$880,000	6/23/17	5	2	1298
584 East Third St UNIT301 Condo	\$810,000	6/26/17	5	2	1068
141 Dorchester Ave UNIT 412 Condo	\$775,000	6/23/17	3	1	1113
462 East Seventh St UNIT 1 Condo	\$750,008	6/23/17	5	2.5	1330
682 East Eighth St UNIT 2 Condo	\$750,000	6/28/17	4	2	1035
368 Dorchester St UNIT 5 Condo	\$700,000	6/28/17	4	2	1062
178 West Fourth St UNIT 2A Condo	\$695,050	6/26/17	4	1.5	940
45 West Broadway UNIT 301 Condo	\$695,000	6/28/17	4	1	877
556 East Fifth St UNIT 2 Condo	\$644,500	6/29/17	6	1	1239
175 West Seventh St UNIT 1 Condo	\$559,000	6/29/17	4	1	730
21 Wormwood St UNIT 606 Condo	\$555,000	6/29/17	2	1	633
8 Peters St UNIT 2 Condo	\$542,500	6/27/17	4	2	803
675 East Sixth St UNIT 1 Condo	\$535,000	6/29/17	3	1	682
180 West Seventh St UNIT 1 Condo	\$530,000	6/28/17	4	1	613
175 West Seventh St UNIT 2 Condo	\$530,000	6/23/17	4	1	760
71 Willow Court UNIT G Condo	\$415,000	6/26/17	4	1	646
71 Willow Court UNIT D Condo	\$400,000	6/28/17	4	1	646

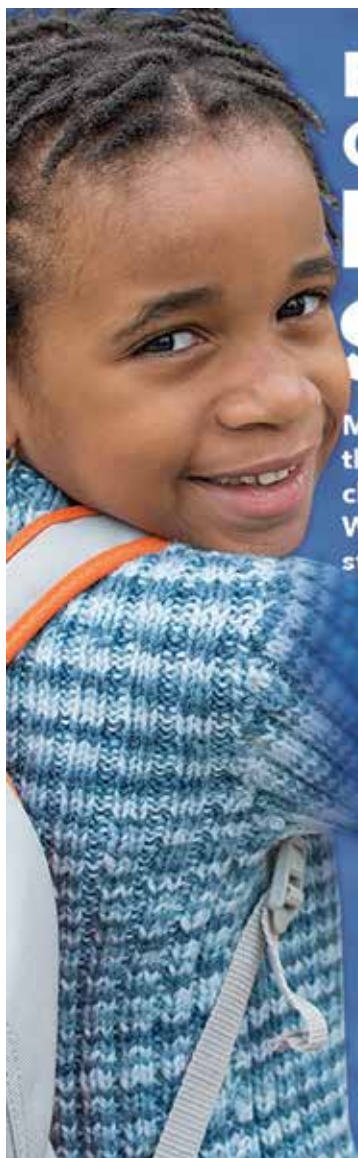
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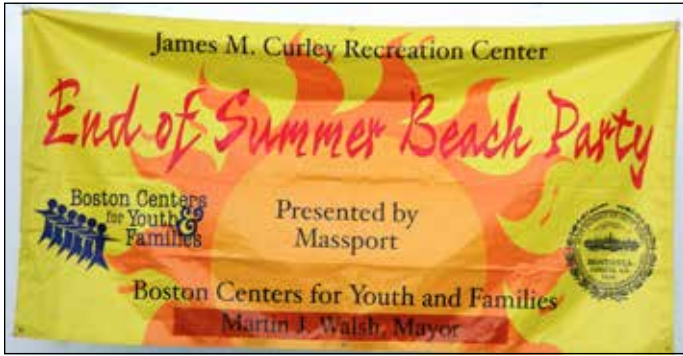


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L Street Night, The Tradition Continues

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY - By Staff

South Boston is fortunate to have a number of traditions that continue to survive the tests of time. L Street Day; or in this year's case, L Street Night, since it was held during the evening hours is one such tradition that has been celebrated by South Bostonians

and their guests for decades.

This year's event as it always does feature excellent live music provided by the 'Linehan Brothers' Band, some delicious food provided by Dave, the world-famous Sausage Guy that hit the spot and is just right for a beach celebration and some favorite

activities meant to please all but especially the kids.

There was face painting, organized by the good volunteers from Save the Harbor/Save the Bay. In fact, there was even a Fish Painting challenge that had many of the participants and spectators fascinated. There were balloon animals, hats and swords



made to order for anyone who wanted them and there were many takers to be sure and other events to entertain folks on an absolutely beautiful August evening. And of course, South Boston’s own ‘Rolly’ supplied unlimited popcorn to all. As always, the staff at the Curley Recreation Center did a great job hosting the event and made sure all went off perfectly. Where better to spend a late summer night than at the beach? Good job by all.

FLYNN EARNS MAJOR LABOR ENDORSEMENTS



BOSTON – Ed Flynn, candidate for Boston City Council District 2, has earned three prominent labor endorsements going into Labor Day. This week, Flynn announced endorsements from NAGE, Boston Carmen’s Union Local 589, and the South Boston-based International Longshoremen’s Association Local 800.

These endorsements add to the strong districtwide support Flynn has received with over 30 labor unions, prominent local elected officials, and community-based organizations backing his candidacy.

On Monday, September 4, Flynn will join thousands of working men and women from across Massachusetts at the Greater Boston Labor Council’s Annual Labor Day Breakfast.

Flynn said, “As a union member, it is humbling to have such strong support from

Continued on page 14



Plentiful Bounty At South Boston's Farmers Market

Fresh from the farm veggies and fruits are always a treat and as most people know, the South Boston Farmers Market boasts some of the best around. Open every Monday from Noon to

6pm at the West Broadway location near the municipal parking lot, it is quite a big attraction to people looking for fresh produce.

Working in cooperation with South Boston's non-profits, the

South Boston Farmers Market has announced that on Tuesday, September 12th a special 'Seniors Day' will be offered to our senior citizens and it will run from Noon till 3pm where seniors

can get some great deals on some of the freshest, tastiest produce around. They will also be offering \$2 coupons for as long as the supplies last to seniors who stop by to shop.

Condon After School Program Registration

The initial registration for K1 and K2 students for the School Aged Child Care Program at the BCYF Condon Community Center will take place this Thursday, August 31st, 4-7pm

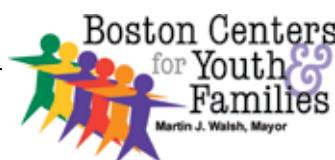
in the Condon lobby.

The After-School program will begin Monday, September 11th and will run thru the end of the school year. The program runs Monday-Friday, 3:30pm-6pm.

Program fee is \$60 per week.

Items needed for registration are a copy of birth certificate, current physical and immunization list and a \$60 registration fee. Seats are limited. Please note that trans-

portation is not provided. Please call the Condon Community Center located at 200 D Street for more information at (617) 635-5100.



SOCCER PARADE SEPTEMBER 7TH

Next Thursday, September 7th at 6:00 p.m., the South Boston Youth Soccer League will be holding its 33rd annual "Parade of Champions" at Moakley Park in the Paul Saunders Stadium. This is the official kickoff for the fall season, in which over 600 of Southie's finest – it's kids – will participate in a fun-filled opening night parade. City Councilor Bill Linehan is the Master of Ceremony and as usual he will provide all of us with a fun-filled night of merriment with his wit.

The Boston Parks and Recreation Depart-

ment will be providing the marching music for the kids once again.

The Boston Police Honor Guard will lead the slowest parade in Town, as they lead the kids on their route around the track. Some of the officers have been involved with this parade for over 33 years, and tell me that this is the one event they look forward to every year where they get to be right up close with all the kids.

All players should be at the stadium by 5:30pm and line up with their team for the start of the parade. Look for the age group and team number on the signs on the fence

outside the stadium. Any player who registered, but has not been contacted by a coach and does not know their team, should go to the clubhouse at 4:30pm, where an information table has been set up.

Coaches should be at the clubhouse at 5:00 pm to pick up their jerseys and line up with their teams and have their team get all set with great costumes on the kids.

So if you want to have some fun and cheer on the kids, then make it a point to be at the stadium, Thursday September 7th at 6:00 pm for the "PARADE OF CHAMPIONS".



Locals Again Flocked To Kenny Chesney/Countryfest

By Jessica Grande/SBT Entertainment Writer

Did you notice that the streets of Southie were a little less crowded last Friday and Saturday? It just may have been because hundreds of South Bostonians were lucky enough to get tickets to the 2 sold out Kenny Chesney 'Countryfest' concerts at Gillette Stadium in Foxborough. They chartered buses, took Uber and Lyft, reserved a shuttle, hired limos and there were even reports once again this year that a few even hitch hiked to get there. And why not? Kenny Chesney coming to town is now one of the biggest annual events and most anticipated highlights of summer.

Tens of thousands jammed Gillette both nights to hear Country Music at its best. And this is a show that not only comes with a power house main event but the opening acts are top of the line as well. First on stage was Midland, followed by Old Dominion and then of course there was the incredible Thomas Rhett who himself sells out huge arenas all over the country even when he's not opening for Chesney. Rhett belted out favorites like 'T-Shirt', 'Die a Happy Man', 'Craving You', 'Crash and Burn' and many more and whipped the ready to party crowd into a frenzy.

And then, out came the man himself, straight from Tennessee, the great Kenny Chesney who never seems to tire when on stage and gave the adoring crowd more than their money's worth with a non-stop two-hour set that sent his fans ballistic. This is a guy who has almost a unique relationship with his fans like few other performers in any genre possesses. They consider him family as he does

them. And he didn't disappoint. As he fired off the favorites and the hits one after another like 'Beer in Mexico', 'I Go Back', 'Boys of Fall' and others he had everyone on their feet. And then of course there is 'She thinks my tractors Sexy', the long time traditional party anthem which had everyone dancing in the stands and singing every word right along with him.

Chesney has always had a special connection to the New England area and to the New England Patriots themselves. This is why Gillette Stadium was the only location he agreed to play 2 shows instead of just one this year. The odds are, he could have sold out many more. It was announced that Friday's concert will be released on a live album and video in October, so who knows, those who made it to that show just might see themselves on screen partying in the audience when the album comes out.

This is my fourth year in a row that I have had the pleasure of covering and reporting on Countryfest for South Boston Today. It's a blast to say the least and my all time favorite assignment and I'm grateful for the opportunity. I can't think of a better way to spend a beautiful late August evening than being among thousands of happy fans enjoying the music and singing of some of the most talented performers in the world. Kenny Chesney and Countryfest 2017 lived up to and even exceeded all expectations and just gets better every time. It is by far, the biggest and best party of the year. Just ask any of the many South Bostonians who were there last weekend. It was a blast.

PARKARTS WATERCOLOR WORKSHOPS RETURN IN SEPTEMBER



Budding artists ages nine and up are invited to join the Boston Parks and Recreation Department for its popular

fall series of ParkARTS Watercolor Painting Workshops during the month of September at six Boston locations. The series of free workshops is just one of the many offerings of the 21st annual ParkARTS program sponsored by Holly and David Bruce.

The workshops welcome artists of all skill levels to create their own greenspace-inspired masterpieces

with instruction and materials provided. This fall's featured instructor is Juleen Jones. Ms. Jones has a BFA in Fine Art from Montserrat College of Art as well as a custom painting business called The Artist Touch where she transforms rooms with faux and specialty painting, murals, hand painted furniture, refinishing, and more.

All classes are held from 12 noon

to 2 p.m. weather permitting. Date and location for the workshop is Sunday, September 10 at Medal of Honor Park, South Boston

For further information on the workshops and other ParkARTS programs, please call (617) 635-4505 or visit the Parks Department online at www.facebook.com/bostonparksdepartment or www.cityofboston/parks.



Pictured are the SBBA 2017 summer league champions, the Cranberry Café Club. The players are: Eddie Curran, Scotty Lewis, Adam Donovan, Frank Jankowski, Joey Chapin, Miscal Vilsant, Mike Kinahan, and John Costello. (Not pictured: Jeff Powers, Billy Allen, Mike Jones, and Bobby Griffin.)



The IABBO certified game officials for the championship tilt were (from left to right) David Shaw and Victor Baldassari.



Pictured are the SBBA 2017 summer league finalists, the South Boston Check Cashing Club. The players are: Mitch Newcomb, Mike Gillis, Dan Powers, Brian Dunphy, Matt Kehoe, Matt Beggan, and Brian Fitzgerald. (Not pictured: Justin Shaughnessy and Nick Provenzano.)



Cranberry Café Club Captures Championship

Cashes in against South Boston Check Cashing Club to win hoop title

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY - By Kevin Devlin

Amidst cloudy skies, on Tuesday evening, August 29, at the Mike Pano basketball courts located within M Street Park, the Cranberry Café Club defeated the South Boston Check Cashing Club, aka the Young Guns, 51-43, to win the 2017 South Boston Basketball Association (SBBA) summer men's league championship. Cranberry Café guard, John Costello (13 pts./2 treys) and forward, Miscal Vilsant (17 pts./5 treys) were South Boston Today's co-MVP's.

Both teams came out flat during the first five minutes of the game, but then the Cranberry Café Club went on a 9-0 run, to take a 11-2 lead

with 10:12 left in the first half. The South Boston Check Cashing Club tightened up defensively and led by Brian Dunphy (11 pts./2 treys) and Mike Gillis (12 pts./2 treys) went on an 8-0 run, to cut the deficit to one, 11-10. Cranberry Club forward Adam Donovan (6 pts.) and guard Frank Jankowski (3 pts.) then scored late in the first half (7-0 run) to give their team a 21-14 lead at intermission.

In the second half, the Cranberry Café Club came out determined, and went on a 10-2 run to increase their lead, 31-16. It was an uphill battle for the Young Guns for the remainder of the game. Dan Powers (7 pts.) and Mitchell Newcomb (10 pts.), along with the rest of the team, continued to play hard. With under a minute to play, they cut

the deficit to seven, but that was as close as they would get before time ran out. The Young Guns are a talented team but their opponent had an advantage on the boards they just couldn't overcome.

Eddie "Wilt" Curran, the long-time league commissioner, and former South Boston High School varsity basketball star, would like to thank the league sponsors and the Tynan staff for their continued support during the winter and summer men's hoop seasons.

"Without these sponsors, this men's league would have dissolved years ago," Curran said. "Knowing we have their support keeps this league intact...viable."

The sponsors are: South Boston Check Cashing, the Quietman Golf Committee, Sidewalk Cafe, Cran-

berry Café, Sal's, Robert Sullivan Insurance, South Boston Auto, and Peter Welch's Gym. I also want to give a shout-out to the Tynan staff for allowing us access to their gym during the winter season and for rainouts during the summertime.

"The players love the competition," Curran added. "Everyone involved appreciates all that is done on their behalf so that the league continues to exist."

(Writer's Note: The SBBA is dedicated to the memory of John "Injun" Horan. Nicknamed affectionately as Injun, John was a lifelong Southie resident, who coached, managed, officiated, and mentored many, many local youngsters in baseball, football, and basketball for decades.)

Ed Flynn

Continued from page 11

organized labor. Now more than ever, we appreciate the labor movement's efforts on behalf of working people. If elected, I will continue to defend collective bargaining, support negotiations for fair wages and benefits, and will remain an advocate for an econo-

my that works for everyone."

In addition to the more than 30 unions supporting Flynn, he has also been endorsed by Congressman Stephen F. Lynch, State Representative Nick Collins, Boston City Councilor At-Large Michael Flaherty, Suffolk Superior Court Clerk Michael Donovan, and Supreme Judicial Court Clerk Maura Doyle.

About Ed Flynn

Ed Flynn is a lifelong resident of District 2, where he has been deeply involved as a youth sports coach, veterans' advocate, and community activist. In addition to being an active Boston Public Schools parent at the Josiah Quincy School in Chinatown, Ed is a member of the Cityside Neighborhood Association,

South Boston Citizens' Association, Ward 7 Democratic Committee, and VFW Fitzgerald Post.

Ed served on active duty in the Persian Gulf on two deployments and overseas in the Navy Reserves, helping to coordinate disaster relief in Haiti. Ed and his wife, Kristen, are raising their children, Caroline and Stephen, in South Boston.



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

By the time you read this, perhaps the Boston Celtics' blockbuster trade with the Cleveland Cavaliers will be made official, even though we all thought it was official last week. Talk about a wacky situation. In case you missed it, the Cavs traded Kyrie Irving to the Celtics in exchange for Isaiah Thomas, Jae Crowder, Ante Zizic, and the 2018 Brooklyn Pick. But when Cleveland got to see details of Thomas' hip injury first-hand, they started having second thoughts. At least, it's been reported that the Cavs have had second thoughts. Then reports claimed the Cavs were going to ask the Celtics for another asset in order to finalize the trade. To that, I say no way. The C's shouldn't have to give Cleveland anything else. And if the Cavs are truly using Thomas' injury -- which they knew about before they made the trade -- as leverage to maybe get another player or draft pick, then Danny Ainge should call their bluff. Because then, and only then, will we see if the Cavs are stupid enough to pass on the 2018 Brooklyn Pick. If LeBron James is leaving Cleveland after this year, and if that's the reason Irving

asked for a trade, then it's that Brooklyn pick which is the most important asset in this deal for the Cavs. There's no way that Cleveland walks away from acquiring that pick. No bleeping way. So the Celtics shouldn't give the Cavs any additional assets. This is the trade, and there's nothing Cleveland can do about it.

When Julian Edelman went down with a torn ACL last Friday night, the New England Patriots became a worse football team than they were before the injury. But you know what we do here in New England with our football team. We immediately defer to "next man up." You can't laugh at the philosophy. Because, with the Patriots, it works. How many times have we seen key players go down with an injury, be released, or get traded, and somebody else on the roster steps in and does the damn job? There's a reason why we expect it to happen. Because it always does. Heck, the Patriots just won the Super Bowl without Rob Gronkowski, who is arguably the most dangerous tight end the NFL has ever seen in the history of the league. So I get it. If the Pats can survive without Gronk, they can survive under any situa-

tion in which Tom Brady is still the quarterback and Bill Belichick is still the head coach. But make no mistake about it, when Edelman went down for the season during the team's third preseason game, the Patriots didn't become a better football team. Edelman was Mr. Reliable. His ability to get open and pull in crucial passes over the middle is a huge reason why I always feel confident that the Patriots' offense is going to come out on top. Obviously Brady has a whole lot to do with that, but Edelman has been Brady's top-dog for a number of years now. And when you lose that key piece, who makes most of the big plays for you in big spots, that's a devastating loss, for the quarterback and the entire team. So while I do believe that the Patriots offense is still stacked, and that they'll still win the AFC East and get back to the AFC Championship Game, losing Edelman is a devastating blow. It's OK to admit that and still believe the Patriots can do something special once again this season.

The Boston Bruins are back in the news, but not for all the right reasons. The B's couldn't really do anything to match the Celtics'

offseason, which is understandable. Still, they could have found a way to come up with some type of contract agreement with one of their best young players, 21-year-old David Pastrnak, who is a restricted free agent. He's reportedly turned down an offer of \$6 million per year. We can try to compare other players' deals all we want, but at the end of the day, we don't really know just how much more than \$6 million Pastrnak wants. Does he want more than \$7 million a season? Or does he want \$6.5 million and an extra year? If it's the latter, then there's no excuse for the Bruins not to do that right now. The kid had a breakout season with 34 goals last year. But if he wants more than \$7 million a year, that seems pretty nuts to me, considering he hasn't really done all that much to make those demands. But since he's only 21, I think I'd probably have to succumb to the pressures of Pastrnak's crazy demands and give him the monster contract. Mainly because I'm sick of trading away talented young players.

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