

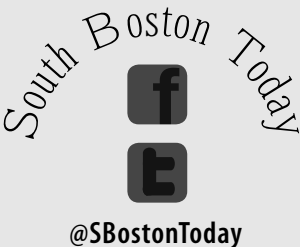
2018 Edison Draft Project Impact Report (DPIR) Shows Massive Impact

Boston Landmarks Commission states that the entire Edison Plant development site has historical significance. Boston Parks and Recreation Commission states that inadequate open and green space will overburden M Street Park and vicinity. Longshoreman Union and other Port-related entities state that the commerce and attendant jobs will be adversely affected. The Arts and Cultural community have been proponents but are simply seeking a venue that is not necessarily at

CONTINUED ON page 12


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Tuesday January 23

9:00-11:00 AM & 3:00-6:00 PM

St Peter Academy

371 West Fourth Street , South Boston, MA 02127

Telephone 617-268-0750 Email SPA@StPeterAcademy.com

Website: StPeterAcademy.com

EDITORIAL

Use Caution at the Beach - Keep off the Ice

Now that we're deep into a winter that so far seems to have more stretches of frigid weather than average, a hazard not regularly affecting us here is the danger of soft ice. Some forecasts warn of the possibility of several more, long deep freezes to come this season, as winter drags on. This could cause the water along South Boston's 3 miles of beautiful shoreline to ice up once again.

Most people are aware that salt water doesn't freeze as

quickly or get as hard as does the fresh water in lakes, ponds and rivers, even though it may appear to be so from a distance. This is why environmental officials again this year remind the public to use caution when at or near the beach during the winter months. Their sound advice is that, no matter how cold it may be and for how long, it is never a good idea to attempt to walk on ice, if it does form at our beaches as it was beginning to do just 2 weeks ago. Walking on salt water ice is not

advisable ever.

The message from the experts that we feel cannot be repeated often enough is to never walk out onto an ice-covered body of sea water. And please, make sure this is emphasized to the kids. Dog owners too should refrain from allowing their canine friends to get loose, while walking them at the beach, because they can fall through a soft flow almost as easy. Taking these precautions this winter will help prevent an avoidable tragedy.



"Americans are not a perfect people, but we are called to a perfect mission" – President/General Andrew Jackson



Pictured with the Gate of Heaven CYO boys' instructional basketball league commissioners and coaches are first graders who participate in the program



Pictured with the Gate of Heaven CYO boys' instructional basketball league commissioners and coaches are second graders who participate in the program

The Gate of Heaven CYO boys' instructional basketball league is held at the McDonough Gym located at the Walsh Community Center. Sponsored by Massport, this instructional pro-

gram is conducted on Saturday mornings from 8:30 a.m. until 9:30 p.m., and overseen by Gatey Commissioners, Sean Monahan and Michael Donovan. The instructional league coaches who assist the

commissioners every week are, Eddie Murray, Tommy White, Owen Donovan, James Buzzell, Jake Harrison, Danny Mahoney, Conor Strickland, and Fred Haddad.

SouthBostonTODAY**** PO Box 491 • South Boston, MA 02127
Online • On Your Mobile • At Your Door

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Deadlines

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

Press Copy - Monday at 6:00pm • Advertisements Space Reservations - Friday at 6:00pm • Ad Material - Monday at 4:00pm • Camera Ready Ads - Tuesday at 6:00pm

The Information Center



There Are Many Things Going Well In America

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY
John Ciccone

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

As most know, the end of this month will bring the annual Presidential State of the Union Address. This event is set up to give the current president at the time an opportunity to report on what, if anything he feels is good and/or bad with the condition of the country and shed some light on what direction he wants to take the nation moving forward. If you are a steady viewer of CNN or a regular reader of the New York Times you may not be aware that yes, there are some very positive things happening with both foreign and domestic policy.

The economy: It's on fire – in a good way. Jobs are coming back, unemployment is at an 18 year low for the country as a whole and even

unemployment among Black and Hispanic Americans is going down and at the lowest point in many years. With the recent tax reform package, a majority of working Americans will be getting less taken out of their pay and many companies have started giving bonus to employees already. The GNP has gone from a sickly 1.5% to more than 3% and could actually hit 4% by economist predictions. Companies are coming back to the country and bringing more jobs and the number of Americans who feel confident and good about the economy has nearly tripled. The Stock Market is setting records in the right direction. The nation is well on its way to becoming energy independent which will prevent OPEC from ever hold-

ing sway over us again.

Our military; after eight years of neglect by Obama, is being rebuilt, the flood of illegal's crossing our border has been slowed to a relative trickle and ISIS has nearly been reduced to rubble. North Korea, while still acting bellicose, has cut back on their threats to nuke everyone and has finally come to the table to have talks with South Korea thanks to US pressure. The UN has been put on notice that if they continue to pursue their anti-American and anti-Israel ways, the flow of money from Uncle Sam will be reduced and maybe even cut off at some point.

These are some of the things that President Trump will be speaking about at the State of the Union but there will be some members of con-

gress who will be boycotting the event because to be blunt, they hate him. So far, as of this writing those who have announced they will not be attending are Congress members Maxine Waters, John Lewis, Earl Blumenau and of course Frederica Wilson; owner of at least a thousand cowboy hats. In response to this boycott, some of our readers have made suggestions as to who or what could be used to fill those empty seats reserved for the afore mentioned congress members which would serve at least as useful a purpose as the absent lawmakers. Some of the suggestions were crash test dummies, potted plants, the balloons used in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade and Gia **continued on page 5**



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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.

Beacon Hill showdown over forced treatment for addicts

Gov. Charlie Baker plans to testify today at a legislative hearing in support of his latest anti-opioids legislation. But there was plenty of pre-hearing sparring yesterday over a provision that would let medical staff to lock up users for treatment, a measure supported by at least one police chief and opposed by the ACLU, reports the Herald's Bob McGovern.

Ex-Sen. Downing reflects on how there really is a life after Beacon Hill

Former state Sen. Benjamin Downing sat down with the Berkshire Eagle's Heather Bellow and reflected on his decade on Beacon

Hill as he begins his new life as an executive for a solar company. Downing cites legislative progress made on issues important to western Massachusetts, reflects on being a new parent and admits that his time in the sausage factory left him with a mixed outlook. "If my 10 years in office taught me anything it's that change is frustrating, but there are many reasons to be hopeful."

Report: Beacon Hill compromise close on non-competes

This is a huge deal within the business community, if a deal is indeed reached. From Jon Chesto at the Globe: "Negotiators on Beacon Hill say they're closing in on a compro-

mise to restrict the use of noncompete contracts, after a previous effort collapsed in the final hours of the Legislature's last two-year session. Senator Jason Lewis and Representative Paul Brodeur, cochairs of the Labor and Workforce Development Committee, said they are hopeful a version of the legislation will pass the House and Senate this year, ending a decade-long tussle over the issue."

MEMA: Bay State has more nuclear false-alarm safeguards than Hawaii

Massachusetts Emergency Management director Kurt Schwartz says it's unlikely a false nuclear-attack alert, like the one seen in Hawaii over the weekend, can happen here. Why? Because it takes a total of three people at the state-level to send out emergency alerts in Massachusetts, not one, as was apparently the case in Hawaii. Bob Shaffer at WBUR has the somewhat reassuring details.

Net neutrality supporters sense potential victory in U.S. Senate

U.S. Sen. Edward Markey today is expected to resume his attacks on Republican FCC Chairman Ajit Pai, who last month led efforts to gut the Obama administration's net neutrality rules. The Washington Post is reporting that 50 senators have now endorsed a legislative measure to override the FCC ruling, leaving supporters just one Republican vote shy of the necessary votes to pass a Senate "resolution of disapproval."

Warren hauls in another \$2.8M in campaign funds

U.S. Sen. Elizabeth Warren's campaign announced yesterday that she's hauled in another \$2.8 million in campaign funds, bringing her war chest total to a whopping \$14.1 million, reports Chris Cassidy at the Herald. Needless to say, many,

including the Herald's Joe Battentfeld, are speculating just how much of that money will be used for her re-election bid this year – and how much might be used to push a possible 2020 presidential bid.

Meanwhile, Warren backs Congressional efforts to protect states with legal marijuana

How far these efforts will go in a Republican-controlled Congress is not clear. But Congress clearly needs to do something about the standoff between the Trump administration and states, like Massachusetts, with legal marijuana. Shira Schoenberg at MassLive reports U.S. Sen. Elizabeth Warren is now throwing her support behind efforts by a bi-partisan group of lawmakers to protect states' rights to legalize pot.

Warning: Voters exercising their democratic rights may be a hazard to your schools

Some Amherst parents are concerned about the flood of voters that make their way to the town's schools on election days, saying the unfettered public access makes schools and students less safe, Scott Merzbach reports in the Hampshire Gazette. The police department is conducting an assessment of the security issues raised by the voting-day practice, a custom followed by scores of communities across the state.

Good, boy: New leash and poopie pick-up rules for wildlife-management areas

We would have thought there were already strict leash rules in state wildlife-management areas, but apparently not. Mary Whitfill at the Patriot Ledger has the details of coming new rules, focusing on the impact at English Salt Marsh and Burrage Pond Wildlife Refuge in Halifax and Hanover.

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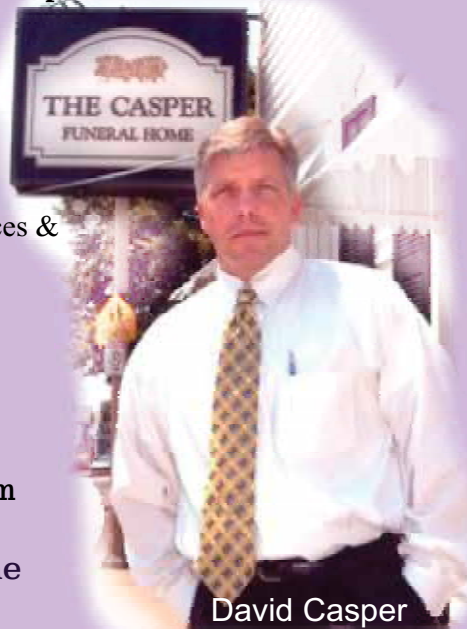
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Mayor's Corner

Compassion, Dignity and Hope in Boston

Too many of us are tied to the opioid crisis, whether we are struggling ourselves, or we see and experience the struggle right alongside our coworkers, friends, and family. This is an epidemic and no one -- no matter where you live, your education, your job, your income -- is immune. That's why it's so important that we rally together as a city to support each other and rebuild the Long Island Bridge.

Long Island once played a prominent role in Boston's recovery landscape and it will once again. This year we will launch the process of rebuilding Long Island Bridge in order to create, on the Island, the comprehensive, long-term addiction recovery campus that our city and region have never had before.

You don't overcome addiction by sticking to the same routine and living out each day in the same environment. Yes, increasing detox beds is important and is a start, but that is the first of many steps. Addiction recovery requires sustained, supported, evidence-based treatment and care, from a range of providers and allies working in sync.

We have a unique opportunity to build the Island into a premier re-

covery continuum campus where individuals can grow stable in their recovery. We will provide a continuum of care -- from harm reduction, to detox, to residential treatment, to transitional housing and ongoing peer support. The Island provides an environment to establish this programming and structure. We need to give those suffering -- wherever they are on their journey to recovery -- the opportunity to rebuild a life. This means offering them mentorship, job training, housing resources, access to doctors and therapists, and more.

In 2014, for the safety of our most vulnerable residents, we were forced to close the 63-year-old bridge before it crumbled into Boston Harbor. In the months that followed, we quickly built a new shelter in Boston and we found new sites for the public and nonprofit programs that were housed on the Island. While they no doubt intersect at times, homelessness and the opioid crisis are different issues. As matters of public health and public policy, each requires its own comprehensive response. So while we've decided the homeless need to move into shelter programs integrated in our commu-

nities, the "escape" of Long Island is beneficial for those with substance abuse disorders and in recovery.

Our region needs more residential treatment beds for those coming out of detox and supportive housing for those coming out of treatment. Too many people relapse because a solid next step is not there for them in time. And too much provider energy is devoted to the struggle to help clients find their next placement. We need more treatment beds and more transitional housing. And we need to weave together more seamlessly the "continuum of care" -- from detox, to residential treatment, to sober housing and social supports -- that it takes to reclaim your life.

That's the purpose of the new campus we envision. It will increase and balance capacity across each phase of treatment at a scale not possible in a neighborhood setting. It will provide a peaceful place for long-term treatment, supports, and transitions, especially helpful for those who need time away from familiar places and faces. And it will also act as a clearinghouse for available place-

ments along the continuum, across the region. In short, it will be the hub that Greater Boston's recovery universe has long lacked.

The positive impact of a recovery campus will reverberate through our region. It will take those suffering from substance disorders off the streets, not only of Boston but also of Quincy and all our neighboring cities and towns. More important, it will help them return to their families and communities more whole and better equipped to continue rebuilding their lives.

Planning, permitting, and building a new bridge will take time -- four years at a minimum. But we are determined. We have funding in our capital budget, we expect to have \$30 million available from our Parking Meter Fund, and we will work creatively and collaboratively to meet any additional costs. In the meantime, we'll plan the campus by working even more closely with the devoted providers, nonprofits, and public agencies who are engaged in the fight against addiction.

As I said before, nobody is immune from this epidemic. Addiction can so easily come from simply medicating ourselves or our family after wisdom teeth are taken out, a broken bone from a game of softball, a slip on the ice walking into work -- everyone is vulnerable. Everyone needs to show compassion for those facing addiction. Everyone deserves dignity and hope. Let our city be the one to give it to them and stand with them as they rebuild the life they deserve.

Ciccone

continued from page 3

Pets. All of which, in the opinion of many, would serve the purpose and would probably cause less embarrassment to the nation; much of which will be watching on live TV.

The State of California has just been given a title that many in that state won't be too happy with -- 'Poverty Capitol of the Nation'. A recent study by the Pacific Research Institute finds that after years of liberal policies, Californians are becoming steadily poorer

and some are starting to refer to the state as a third world country. Some of the reasons given for the state's decline are crippling environmental regulations which are making everything more expensive, nonstop tax increases, nearly undeterred and often encouraged illegal immigration and the cost of supporting it and the fleeing of workers and even businesses to states like Texas and Utah where taxes and the cost of living are a lot less and the economies are booming. California used to be a

place that enticed people to move there. There were once many good reasons to do so. But now it seems the only thing that state has to offer is a nice climate. They have a state government dominated by liberal Democrats who want to tax everything that can't be hidden, that passes countless restrictive laws and regulations that continuously chip away at individual freedoms and seeks to insert itself into the private lives and personal affairs of just about everyone. California used to be

the 'in' place or the 'cool' place to be from. But now, it has become a sort of laughing stock and a joke to millions of Americans who just shake their heads in disbelief at what goes on there.

But California can still serve a purpose. It can be used as an example for other states to look at as a place to never, ever turn into. Hopefully, the state of Massachusetts, which is considered by some to be a close second to California in its leftist leanings is paying close attention and will take a much different path.

A TWO-DAY EXCHANGE OF IDEAS ON BOSTON'S WORKING PORT

Hosted by Boston Harbor Now (<http://www.bostonharbornow.org/>)

Boston's waterfront is undergoing an historic redevelopment boom. Boston's Designated Port Areas (DPAs) are experiencing increasing pressure to be developed for commercial, recreational and residential uses. As a decades-long champion of the working port, Boston Harbor Now has been working on a comprehensive white paper that examines the current state of Boston's working waterfront, the regulatory structure that governs Designated Port Areas, and provides a series of comparable regional and international case studies.

A two-day idea exchange is scheduled in conjunction with the release of the Innovation in Boston's Working Port report. Our goal is to achieve broader public-private consensus on the necessary steps to build a 21st century Harbor and, in doing so, create a Boston's working port that is increasingly innovative, climate-resilient, and economically viable.

**DAY 1: TUESDAY,
JANUARY 23, 2018**

**"OCEAN FRONTIERS III"
SCREENING & PANEL
New England Aquarium, 1 Central Wharf, Boston, MA 02110
6:00pm – 8:30pm**

Join us for a special screening of Ocean Frontiers III at the New England Aquarium. This award-winning film series explores the challenges at the heart of ocean conservation and development, presenting solutions from a range of people who are leading the way to a healthy and sustainable ocean future. The film will be followed by a panel conversation from area maritime experts. This special film screening is in partnership with Boston Harbor Now, Green Fire Productions and the New England Aquarium. This event is free and open to the public.

Timeline:

6:00pm – guest reception
6:30pm – introductions & Ocean Frontiers III film screening

7:30pm – panel discussion + audience Q&A on the new Northeast ocean action plan

Ocean Planning Experts Panel:
Mark Cutter – Assistant Branch Chief, Waterways Management, U.S. Coast Guard Sector Boston
Bruce Carlisle – Director, Massachusetts Coastal Zone Management
Emily Shumchenia, PhD – Marine Scientist, Northeast Ocean Data Portal Working Group
Randall Lyons, CMM – Executive Director, Massachusetts Marine Trades Association

Moderator, Bud Ris – Senior Advisor, Green Ribbon Commission, former CEO New England Aquarium

**DAY 2: WEDNESDAY,
JANUARY 24, 2018**

**WORKING PORT CRUISE:
Mass Bay Lines, 60 Rowes Wharf, Boston, MA 02110,
10:00am – 12:00pm - \$15.00**

A two-hour narrated cruise of the four inner-harbor Designated Port Areas. This ticketed tour will depart from Rowes Wharf, head down to the South Boston Designated Port Area, across and up the Harbor to the East Boston DPA, hug the waterfront through the Chelsea Creek DPA, and wrap up in the Mystic River DPA. The boat will drop passengers off at Commonwealth Pier in the Seaport.

Guest Speakers:

Lisa Berry Engler – Assistant Director, MA Office of Coastal Zone Management
Richard McGuinness – Deputy Director for Climate Change and Environmental Planning, Boston Planning and Development Agency
Andrew Hargens – Deputy Director Real Estate Development, Massport
Fred Laskey – Executive Director Massachusetts Water Resources Authority
Ryan Cox – Vice President at Boston Line & Service, President Propeller Club of Boston
Marty McCabe – Boston Harbor Pilots, VP Propeller Club of Boston
Magdalena Ayed – Executive Director, Harbor Keepers



Steve Dodge – Executive Director, API Mass Petroleum Council
Shelagh Mahoney – CEO and Owner, Eastern Salt
Carol Churchill – Communications Manager at ENGIE North America
Captain Claudia Gelzer – Captain of the Port, United States Coast Guard
Moderator, Jamie Fay – Founder and President of Fort Point Associates

**WORKING PORT
IDEA EXCHANGE**

Exchange Conference Center at Fish Pier, 212 Northern Ave, Boston, MA 02210
1:30pm – 6:00pm - \$25.00

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS:

Welcome remarks by Tom Glynn,
CEO Massport
Remarks by:
Carolyn A. Kirk, Deputy Secretary, Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Summary of Innovation in Boston's Working Port Report:
Kathy Abbott, President & CEO Boston Harbor Now.

To plan the future of Boston's working port, we must have a better understanding of Boston Harbor now! We have invited speakers from around the Harbor to address the challenges Boston's working port is facing. Each speaker is allowed 8 slides shown for 40 seconds each. By the end of the first hour you will have a working knowledge of Boston Harbor today.

Presenters:

Andrew Hargens – Deputy Director, Real Estate Development, Massport
Roseann Bongiovanni – Executive

Director, Greenroots
Dan Adams – Founding Principal at Landing Studio
Jake Citrin – CEO, Cargo Ventures
Mia Mansfield – Climate Ready Boston Program Manager, City of Boston Office of Environment, Energy and Open Space
Tiffany Skogstrom – Outreach and Policy Coordinator, Massachusetts Office of Technical Assistance (OTA)
NATIONAL AND REGIONAL MARITIME EXPERT PANEL

The second panel will include a conversation with thought leaders focused on the opportunities for growth in Boston's working port and a guide to building a 21st-century Harbor.

Ammar Kanaan – President, Kanaan Consulting focused on global maritime trends
Bill Needleman – Waterfront Coordinator, City of Portland ME
Jamie Torres Springer – Partner, HR&A Advisors, Inc.
Austin Becker, PhD – Assistant Professor of Coastal Planning, Policy, and Design University of Rhode Island
Moderator, Bruce Mohl – Editor, Commonwealth Magazine
CLOSING REMARKS: Jeff Porter, Board Chairman, Boston Harbor Now

RECEPTION

Attendees, panelists, and presenters are invited to a post-conference wrap up reception. This is an excellent opportunity to make new connections, network, and continue conversations offline.

St. Peter Academy: Where Students Learn and Are Loved

“I love my school!” says first grader, Eveie. “We have awesome teachers.”

If you are looking for a school where students from fifteen months through grade 6 are learning and loved, then look no further! St. Peter Academy in South Boston is just that place.

Students at St. Peter Academy engage deeply with material – learning necessary skills while also learning to think critically about the world around them. Whether it is toddlers using flashlights to learn explore light and dark or students in grade 3 and 4 visiting

the Harvard Museum of Natural History as part of their study of animals, St. Peter students engage in developmentally appropriate and hands-on learning. Parents like Elizabeth Rice see this reflected in their children. “St. Peter has a rich and rigorous curriculum that has renewed my son’s interest in learning. He brings the information he learns in the classroom home and applies it to everyday situations.”

Beyond engaging and rigorous academics, St. Peter students are known and deeply cared for by their teachers. At St. Peter it’s not uncommon to see teachers enjoying

lunch with students, playing soccer with them, or giving individualized attention after school. With small class sizes and a focus on meeting the needs of each child, the close bond between students and teachers make school a truly special place. “I am constantly reminded of how lucky we are to have my son’s teacher. His dedication to his classroom is inspiring. He is totally committed to making sure his students have access to the curriculum by using creative, fun, and individually tailored lessons”, says Rice.

Come see the students of St. Peter Academy in action by visiting

our Schoolwide Open House on Tuesday, January 23 from 9-11am and 3-6pm. Appointments for individual tours can also be made by contacting the Main Office at 617-268-0750 or by emailing SPA@StPeterAcademy.com.

St. Peter Academy in an independent, community-based private school and serves students from ages 15 months through grade 6. SPA is currently accepting applications for the limited spaces available in the year-round toddler program (beginning at age 15 months) and for students in Pre-K, Kindergarten and grades 1-6. Join us!



The Wine Guy



DOING ANYTHING THIS WEEKEND?

Well, I don't know much about what's going on this Saturday, but come Sunday at 3:05, there's gonna be a game. So, let's do this week's recommendations by the numbers- one wine/food suggestion for each half, with a Halftime item thrown in for good measure.

1ST Half- Chicken Chili Wonton Bites

INGREDIENTS:

36 wonton wrappers
1/2 cup buttermilk ranch salad dressing
1 envelope reduced-sodium chili seasoning mix
1-1/2 cups shredded rotisserie chicken
1 cup shredded sharp cheddar cheese
Sour cream and sliced green onions, optional

DIRECTIONS:

Preheat oven to 350°. Press wonton wrappers into greased miniature muffin cups. Bake 4-6 minutes or until lightly browned.

In a small bowl, mix salad dressing and seasoning mix; add chicken and toss to coat. Spoon 1 tablespoon filling into each wonton cup. Sprinkle with cheese.

Bake 8-10 minutes longer or until heated through and wrappers are golden brown. Serve warm. If desired, top with sour cream and green onions before serving. Yield: 3 dozen.

Try some *Charles Smith Kung Fu Girl Riesling, 2016, Columbia Valley, Washington, (\$12.99)*. It has a spicy character to match the food, but it's also dry enough to appreciate the floral notes on the nose. Really nice balance and a pleasant finish.

HALFTIME- Rioja-Style Potato and Sausage Stew

INGREDIENTS:

4 Servings
1/4 cup plus 2 T. olive oil
1 medium Spanish onion, finely chopped
2 smoked Andouille sausage or Spanish chorizo (can substitute veggie chorizo) chopped into 1/4 inch dice
5 baking potatoes, peeled and cut course 1" chunks
4 c. low sodium chicken broth
1 T. hot paprika
Kosher salt
Fresh cilantro and fresh lime for garnish

DIRECTIONS:

In a large nonreactive saucepan, warm the oil over moderate heat.

Add the onion and cook, stirring, until translucent, about 5 minutes. Add the sausage or chorizo and cook, stirring until through, about 1 minute. Add the potatoes, paprika, 1 T. coarse salt and chicken broth. Bring to boil over high heat, reduce to low, partially covered, stirring occasionally until the potatoes are tender when pierced and the stew has thickened, about 3 minutes.

Uncover the stew, increase to high and bring to a boil, stirring occasionally to incorporate the oil on the surface into the stew. If desired, crush some of the potatoes against the side of the pan to thicken. Season with coarse salt if necessary. Ladle into shallow soup bowls and serve at once. One can sprinkle with fresh cilantro and squeeze of fresh lime.

Try this dish with *Volver Single Vineyard Tempranillo 2014 (\$17.99)*. This red is full-bodied, but not overpowering; its expansive softness and lingering finish are typical of this region's reds. Mocha, tabac and earthy tones on the nose, along with a full mouthfeel combine with a finish that will really complement the stew.

2ND HALF- Skirt Steak Tacos

INGREDIENTS:

2 limes
2 teaspoons chili powder
2 teaspoons vegetable oil
Salt
4 rosemary sprigs, gently crushed
1 1/2 pounds skirt steak
Freshly ground pepper
Sixteen 6- or 8-inch tortillas, warmed

1 medium white onion, finely chopped
1 bunch of red radishes (1/2 pound), thinly sliced
Mashed avocado and hot sauce, for serving

DIRECTIONS:

Using a citrus reamer, juice the limes; reserve the peels. In a large resealable plastic bag, mix the lime juice with the chili powder, vegetable oil and 2 teaspoons of salt. Add the crushed rosemary, reserved lime peels and skirt steak. Seal the bag and turn to coat the meat. Let marinate at room temperature for at least 20 minutes and up to 1 hour or refrigerate for up to 4 hours.

Light a grill or preheat a grill pan and brush liberally with vegetable oil. Pat the steak dry and generously season with salt and pepper. Grill the steak over high heat, turning once, until medium-rare, 7 to 8 minutes. Transfer the steak to a work surface and let rest for 5 minutes. Thinly slice the steak diagonally across the grain. Transfer the steak to a serving platter and serve with the warmed tortillas, chopped onion, sliced radishes, mashed avocado and hot sauce. Finish up the game with these tacos and a nice glass or two of *Las Perdices Malbec, Agrelo, Argentina 2016 (\$14.99)*. The higher altitude in this region produce richer grapes, as the sunlight and evening mist are both more intense; dark fruit and smoky, earthy tones provide for a surprisingly long finish. Enjoy the game, the food and the wine!

ARTS COMMUNITY – OPPORTUNITY IS KNOCKING AT FAN PIER!



While the owners of the former Boston Edison site on Summer and East First Street are enticing the Arts and Cultural community of South Boston with grandiose offers of space and resources to enlist their support of an outsized luxury mixed-use development, veteran developer Joe Fallon has offered the proverbial 'lay-up' at Fan Pier on the South Boston Waterfront. Granted, there is a Request For Proposal (RFP) process underway, but given the support that Mayor Marty Walsh received from the South Boston

community and the support he has expressed for the local arts community during his State of the City, the process is tailor made for a successful proposal. This opportunity, if ignored, could be both a strategic and tactical mistake given the current opposition to the Edison Project. The Arts Groups have either rejected other venues presented to them or been rejected as a partner by several developers. This a terrific opportunity.

50 Liberty is the seventh building to be constructed by the Fallon Company, as part of the Fan Pier project, an approximately

three million square foot mixed-use development on the South Boston Waterfront. The 50 Liberty Civic/Cultural Space consists of 5,000 square feet of gross floor area on the southeast corner of the first floor of 50 Liberty, and the balance of 8,166 square feet of gross floor area is on the second floor of 50 Liberty.

Fallon, in conjunction with the BPDA, is seeking letters of interest from Boston-based qualified civic and cultural operators to lease the 50 Liberty Civic/Cultural Space. The Landlord

continued on page 11

Recent

South Boston

Real Estate Sales

Property/Type	Price	Sale Date	Rooms	Baths	Sq Ft
175-F K St UNIT Front Condo	\$1,500,000	11/30/17	8	4.5	3054
17 Atlantic Street Single Family	\$1,020,000	11/17/17	7	2.5	2464
594 East Sixth St UNIT 2 Condo	\$775,000	11/20/17	4	2	1167
248 C St UNIT PH3 Condo	\$701,000	11/1/17	4	1	910
205 E St UNIT 11-5 Condo	\$699,000	11/17/17	3	1.5	956
542-544 East Eighth St UNIT 4 Condo	\$653,000	11/16/17	4	1	760
1 Jason Terrace Single Family	\$650,000	11/21/17	5	1.5	1079
9 West Broadway UNIT 408 Condo	\$600,000	11/30/17	3	1	847
159 I St UNIT 3 Condo	\$567,500	11/16/17	4	1	705
253 Gold St UNIT 1 Condo	\$567,000	11/30/17	4	1	900
57 Bolton St UNIT A Condo	\$525,000	11/30/17	4	1	686
701 East Eighth St UNIT 1 Condo	\$505,000	11/30/17	4	1	1021
66 Dorchester Street Single Family	\$500,000	11/30/17	7	1.5	1342
320 West Second St UNIT 311 Condo	\$495,000	11/30/17	3	1	571
54 Woodward St UNIT 2 Condo	\$486,000	11/30/17	4	1	897
695 East Fourth St UNIT 2 Condo	\$409,000	11/21/17	3	1	714
159 I St UNIT 1 Condo	\$399,000	11/22/17	3	1	500



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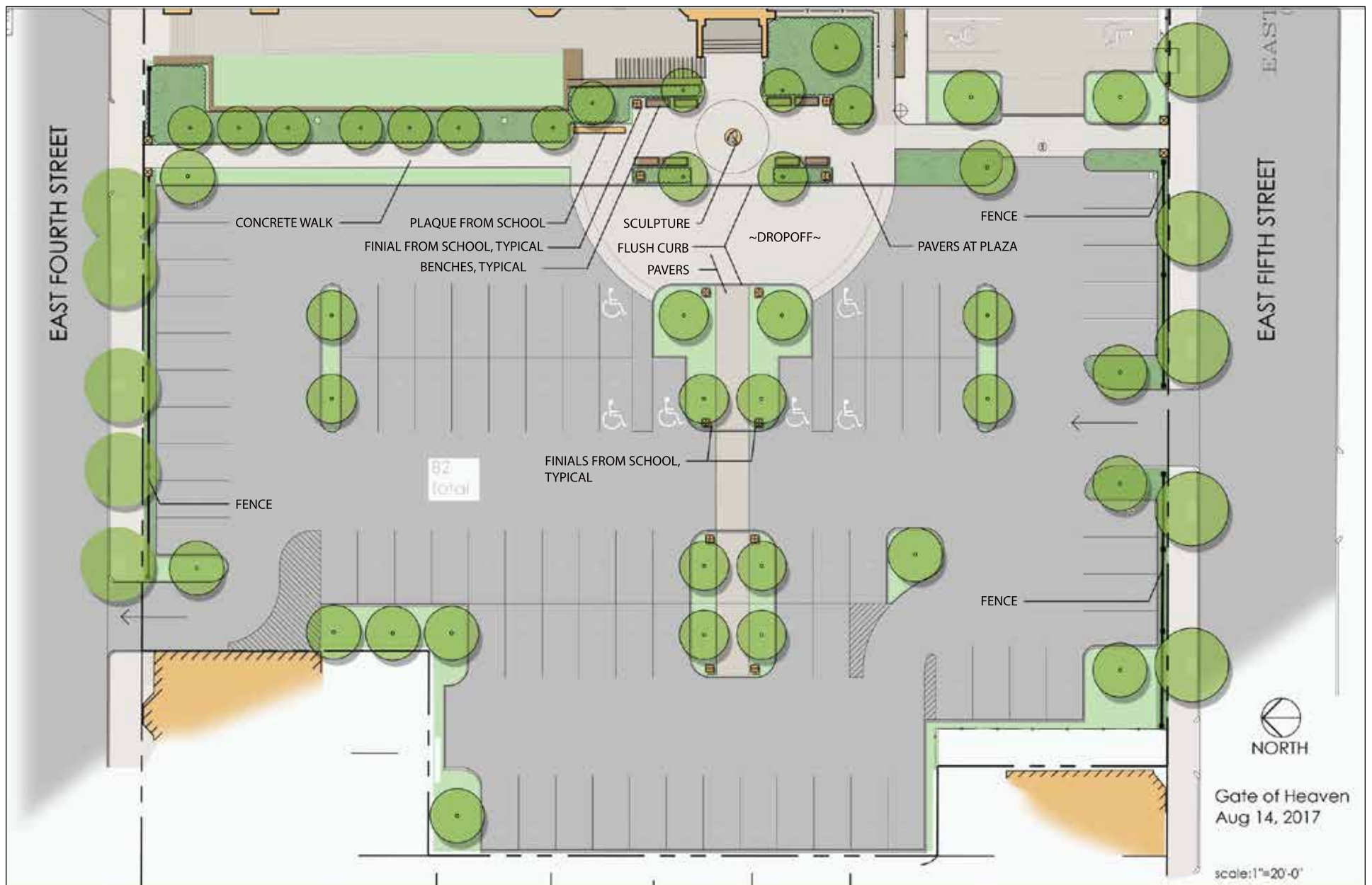
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Gate of Heaven Parish Church Preservation

Former Gate of Heaven School Demolition Proposal -Report from the Finance Council

Gate of Heaven Finance Council and our Pastor, Fr. Casey, with the support of the Archdiocese of Boston, is proposing to demolish Gate of Heaven School in order to create more parking for the Church and the neighborhood. A parking lot, instead of a condominium proposal, will provide a steady and reliable revenue stream for Gate of Heaven Parish for the next century. Our primary goal is the survival of our beautiful and one of a kind Church. Our Church has been the Spiritual home for thousands for the last 100 years and we believe this proposal will ensure it will be for generations to come

for the next 100 years!

WHY IS THIS PROPSAL GOOD FOR GATE OF HEAVEN

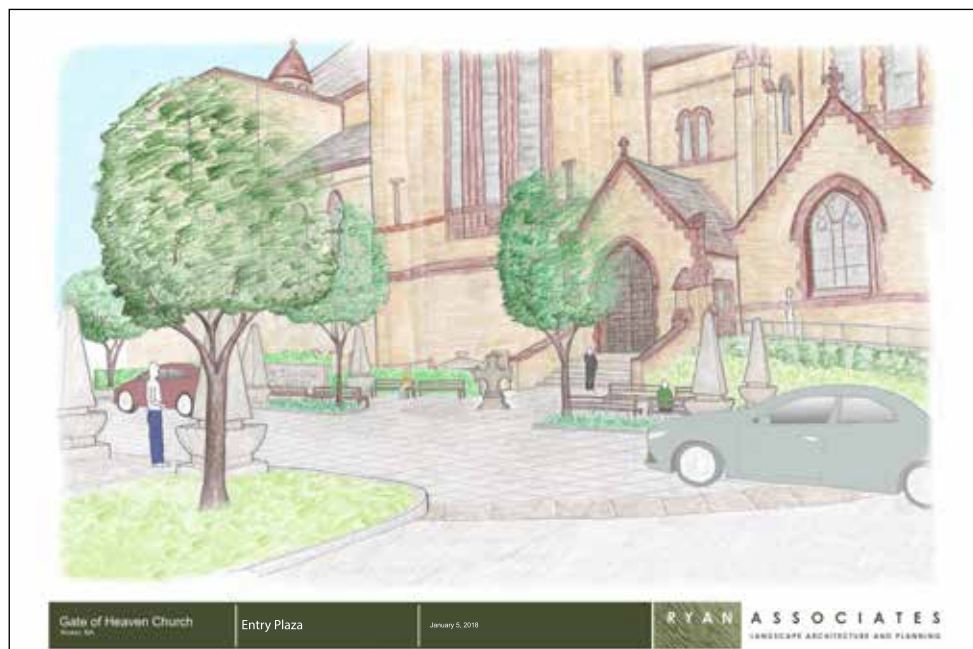
- The Preservation and Protection of Gate of Heaven Church is the Parish's primary concern.
- Reliable and steady revenue from donations towards parking spots will provide the opportunity to conduct much needed maintenance, renovations, and restorations of Gate of Heaven Church for the next century. Proceeds from parking use will help fund past restoration, current costly maintenance and future renovations.
- We are exploring the application process to have the Gate of Heaven Church Building added to the Na-

tional Historic Register.

- Instead of losing 25-30 parking spots with leasing or selling building, the Parish is looking to increase the number to 85 spots.
- The Parish is proposing a parking time change for parishioners & neighbors from 4pm - 8am Monday through Friday, with 7pm - 8am on Saturday & Sunday. With the exception of Parish and Church Events.
- The Parish is proposing to have a section for 24-hour parking, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.
- Increased Parking will ensure more use of the Gate of Heaven Church Hall for Parish Life Activities and CYO functions, etc.
- Utilizing portions of the Gate of Heaven School Building into the parking design. The "Gate of Heaven School, For God and Country" granite block in the side entrance plaza area. Utilizing the large finials in the same area. See the following pages these for sketches.
- In the pavers section of the plaza

area and along the Church - parishioners will have the ability to purchase engraved bricks in memory of your deceased loved ones.

- The Parish will propose moving the East 4th Street entrance closer to the Church for Funerals.
- Selling or Leasing the building would mean that we would lose any control of the land and building.
- With the building gone, and the property ownership remaining with the Parish, potential future development could be more sensitively shaped to serve the needs of both the Parish and neighborhood.
- Those who presently have parking agreements will keep those agreements. With the proposed increased hours for overnight parking, there will be a cost increase.
- Save approximately \$45,000 on taxes, insurance, and maintenance per year.
- The potential disruptions during Church services, whether human noise, truck traffic, or mechanical noise will be eliminated with this proposal.



Some Details on the Proposal for the Gate of Heaven School

‘Gate of Heaven Church Preservation’

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY - By Staff

By now the word is out about the proposal to take down the Gate of Heaven School and make it into parking with some green space. It was announced by Father Casey at last weekend’s Masses and is the talk of the town on South Boston’s many social media sites, as well as on the street. The proposal, which needs Archdiocese and City approval is called the ‘Gate of Heaven Church Preservation’.

The building, which is nearly a hundred years old and has provided thousands of neighborhood children with a good Catholic School education over the generations, hasn’t served in that capacity for many years. It was closed 9 years ago. As most neighbors

know, for the past 4 plus years, it has been the object of controversy as the neighborhood and the Archdiocese debated about what to do with it. There were proposals from developers to turn the well-preserved structure into more condos. This idea was met with opposition by many residents with some of that opposition being fierce and well organized. It included a law suit by the Gate of Heaven Neighborhood Association.

Many residents had hoped that it would be once again utilized as a private or even a charter school, while still others suggested housing for seniors, veterans and/or the disabled. But, according to church and even neighborhood sources, few if any acceptable proposals were

financially feasible, if the stated goal by most involved was to preserve the beautiful and cathedral like Gate of Heaven Church for future generations was to be realized. And that’s what this effort hopes to accomplish, and it has the open support of the Gate of Heaven Neighborhood Association leadership.

Kevin Lally, who heads the Gate of Heaven Neighborhood Association, sent out a letter to residents that was reported in the Boston Globe in which he stated the following: “Demolition was not my first choice, but when I first got involved in this, it was to make sure that the Parish had the funds to keep the church that we all love open for generations to come. With this additional revenue I feel that someday my son and, if I’m around long enough, a grandchild or two will be baptized in the Gate of Heaven Church”.

The backers of this proposal, after studying the pros and cons of every idea floated, say that they feel that the demolition of the school and the transformation planned will serve to provide much needed additional parking for residents, as well as for events

held at the church such as Masses, weddings, funerals etc. In addition, with the donations for those parking spots, it will provide the revenue to keep Gate of Heaven Church open and well maintained for future generations, which is the most important thing.

If all goes as planned, and is approved by the city, demolition could begin sometime this spring or early summer. The number of parking spots will be increased to 85 and residents, who currently hold reserved parking would continue to have them, and provisions for 24-hour parking will be looked at as well.

In a separate column in this publication there is an explanation of the Gate of Heaven Church Preservation proposal provided to South Boston Today by church officials, which gives additional detailed information about the upcoming plans and why they are considered necessary for the future of Gate of Heaven. Diagrams and drawings of the plans will also be available. South Boston Today will keep our readers updated on the issue as we plan to pass on information on the status as we learn of it.

ARTS Community continued from page 8

will lease the 50 Liberty Civic/Cultural Space to the selected user for an annual triple net rent of \$1.00. The selected user will, of course, be responsible for the maintenance of the space, all of their insurance, and a pro rata share of operating expenses for 50 Liberty allocated to the space.

It is currently estimated that such monthly operating expenses will be less than \$0.40 per square foot in the first year of operation of the Condominium. The selected user will receive a \$25 PSF-construction allowance (totaling \$329,150) toward improvements to the warm, white space necessary or desirable for occupancy. Completion of 50 Liberty is expected

in the first quarter of 2018 and occupancy expected upon execution of lease.

The RFP is now available with a due date of February 2, 2018 at 5PM by emailing Erik.Hokenson@boston.gov. A pre-bidder’s conference will be held today January 18, 2018 at 3PM at 50 Fan Pier Boulevard, South Boston – on the South Boston Waterfront.

2018 Edison Report...

Continued from front page

this project, especially since there are nearer term opportunities such as the Fan Pier site currently accepting proposals.

Affordable Housing advocates are appalled that there are no affordable housing units planned on site nor elsewhere in South Boston. Adding that, should affordable housing even be addressed at some point, history with the BPDA and DND shows that other neighborhoods get most of the money earmarked from South Boston developers, limiting the opportunities for local residents.

The 35- page report includes public comment, letters from elected officials and agency technical verbiage as well as a tone that, while pointing out significant hurdles to overcome, mainly “encourages”, “recommends” or “guides” the developer through the process, despite all of the following aspects of site mitigation that includes transportation, environmental including wind,

shadow, noise, air quality, solar glare, solid and hazardous waste, as well as infrastructure and accessibility issues.

Here is the synopsis of the report:

- Throughout this initial phase of review, the Proponent has taken steps to meet with community members, elected officials, abutters, and various City agencies/departments. Regular conversations and meetings with all interested parties must continue through the duration of the public review process, ensuring that what is presented in the DPIR is beneficial to the respective neighborhood and the City of Boston as a whole.
- It is clear in reading through the comment letters that the Proposed Project has simultaneously generated excitement and concern. While many of the letters show desire to see the redevelopment of the former Edison plan site, numerous letters request that additional studies occur in order to evaluate the potential impacts of a project of this magnitude, as well as the potential benefits. The

- BPDA encourages the Proponent to continue to work with those parties, including the IAG and community members, who have expressed concern, in order to minimize and mitigate the Proposed Project’s impacts.
- The general public along with the IAG have expressed concerns with respect to the overall density of the project and the height of some of the buildings being proposed. The BPDA encourages the Proponent to continue to work with the community to address the concerns regarding density and the height of the overall project.
- During the initial review process, residents, elected officials, and other stakeholders raised concerns about the Proposed Project’s effect on the continued viability of the Conley Terminal and Raymond Flynn Cruiseport. The BPDA shares these concerns, and encourages the Proponent to continue to work with the various port stakeholders and to keep the long-term sustainability of the port in mind as the design of the Proposed Project evolves.
- The BPDA encourages the Proponent to continue to work with the Boston Police Department (“BPD”) and Boston Fire Department (“BFD”) to review and address the community’s concerns regarding the impacts that this proposal will have on the existing capacity of these departments’ facilities and staff, should a project move forward.
- The BPDA encourages the Proponent to provide a range of rental and homeownership opportunities, including income-restricted units of both types. The Proponent should look at ways in which the project can exceed the Inclusionary Development Policy, perhaps through the provision of additional income restricted units at a higher income level, so as to meet the needs of middle-income households who are having a difficulty finding housing in the South Boston neighborhood.
- The Proponent must work with the Boston Transportation Department (“BTD”) to address concerns regarding site access, circulation of traffic in and around the Proposed Project site, potential traffic impacts, and appropriate mitiga-

tion throughout South Boston.

- The Proponent must work with the Boston Parks and Recreation Department (“BPRD”) to address anticipated impacts on South Boston’s public parks and open spaces. In addition to working with BPRD, the BPDA encourages the Proponent to continue to engage the IAG and community to help mitigate these impacts and provide new public open space that addresses the needs and goals of the BPRD and overall community.
- As stated in the PNF, the Proponent intends to provide a total of approximately 987 vehicle parking spaces. A better understanding of how these spaces will be allocated must be provided in the DPIR. The Proponent should promote alternative modes of transit to new occupants and visitors to the site. 5
- All development projects have construction impacts. As with any urban development, there needs to be a balance of construction related inconveniences with the daily activities that will continue to occur adjacent to the Proposed Project site. A detailed approach to the construction management must be included in the DPIR.
- The Proponent must take into account all BPDA approved and under review proposals in the South Boston and South Boston Waterfront neighborhoods, scheduled infrastructure improvements in the general area, and nearby large-scale developments in the City of Boston while conducting the DPIR’s required studies (transportation, infrastructure, open space, etc.).
- The Proponent must clearly describe the overall demolition and phasing of the Proposed Project. The buildings to be demolished and constructed in each phase of the Proposed Project should be specified along with an anticipated timeline for each phase. The BPDA acknowledges that project timelines are subject to change due to market conditions and other factors.

The South Boston Community is undergoing dramatic growth and development. Residents must pay attention and be heard.

Here is the Report: <http://www.bostonplans.org/getattachment/e7d13911-c7a4-45e1-9f8e-c26720cb7c88>

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Passing of the Torch to New Leadership for SB Pop Warner

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY - By Staff

The South Boston Pop Warner Football League (SBPW) has announced a change in leadership for the 2018 season. A statement released by the league late last week reads as follows:

“South Boston Pop Warner (SBPW) is thrilled to announce that Eric Manning will be the new president and Kaitlyn Irving will be the new Cheer Coordinator for SBPW. Eric and Kaitlyn bring years of coaching experience and a dedication to SBPW. SBPW would like to thank outgoing board members Dan Ferrara, Kelli O’Brien and John Clifford for their many years of service. Dan, Kelli and John are grateful for the cooperation and dedication from coaches, parents and players over the years in making the program so well respected. They wish Eric and Kaitlyn great success and are excited for them to lead the program into the future. “South Boston’s Pop Warner league has been a source of pride for this neighborhood since it was restarted now going on two decades ago. In fact, this year will mark its 20th season since Brian Wallace, The Ferrara brothers, Dan and Bob, Pat Eagan, Bob Lerro and Jim Higgins saw the need for South Boston to have its own youth football program and decided to make it happen. With the backing of excited parents, local elected officials, supportive local businesses, the late Tom Butler and Massport and a legion of enthusiastic volunteers, it came to be after much planning and organizing. The finished product is impressive.

At each game, whether they are played at home or away, every spectator cannot help but take notice of these well disciplined young athletes in their blue and gold Fighting Irish uniforms as they proudly take the field for pregame warm-ups and then give their heart and soul from the



kick off to the end of the final play. The fact that they have been well trained by dedicated coaches becomes immediately apparent as they always display good sportsmanship, win or lose. With talented, very enthusiastic and championship winning cheerleaders on the sidelines cheering the teams onto victory, it’s easy to see why SBPW is what is often referred to as a ‘top shelf organization’ - one of the finest.

South Boston Today had the pleasure of speaking with outgoing president Dan Ferrara. We asked him for his thoughts and comments on his 18 years as the league president. What was clear from the start of the interview was that he enjoyed it, found it rewarding and was glad to have played a role for so long. He had tremendous praise for all the people who gave of their time and effort over the years to make the organization what it is today. What he called a very positive experience that has created fond and lasting memories for him was getting to know and work with so many great people. He showered praise on the kids, the parents, the coaches and the sponsors, all of whom contribute to the success of SBPW.

As a former football player himself, he spent much of his time in the early years of the league coaching, as well as performing the duties as the league’s president. Always one to share the credit, he highlighted the hard work of John Clifford, Brian Wallace, his brother Bob Ferrara, Pat Eagan, Kelli O’Brien, Bobby Lerro, Jimmy Higgins and others too numerous to mention in one article. Dan was also confident and very much at ease and grateful knowing the organization would be in good hands under the new leadership of Eric Manning and Kaitlyn Irving as he spoke glowingly of their experience with the league and their dedication to the kids.

In addition to all the caring volunteers who have so worked hard to ensure the success of SBPW, Dan Ferrara credited all the local businesses that over the years have been sponsors. Along with the local business owners, there were also the donations given by the SBCD Foundation at the Convention Center. Their help makes it possible for new, up to date and safe equipment to be continuously purchased. Without their financial assistance and support, it would have been a far more difficult task and a much higher expense for

families with participating children which the SBPW has always been able to keep low and affordable.

In closing, Dan Ferrara says he has confidence that SBPW will continue to thrive for many more years to come and he encourages more adults to get involved in volunteering their time, whether for a commitment of several years or even just one season. And why not? Working with and helping provide positive role models for so many great local kids in a healthy activity is among the most rewarding things an adult can do. Being part of an organization such as SBPW, which for 20 years has given guidance and direction in so many ways to area kids and helped them on the path to success, whether it is with education and career opportunities is something every adult can be proud of.

South Boston Today would like to add our voice to the many residents who are appreciative and grateful for the hard work and dedication that the outgoing SBPW officers have given for so long, as well as to the new officers stepping in to fill the positions. All of you, as well as everyone who gives of their time to help make sure this fine program continues, deserve very special praise.

Meet Tristan Peceovich

Student-athlete focused at all times



By Kevin Devlin

He's a reserved youngster who is doing well in school and dedicated to having fun on the playing fields. His name is Tristan Peceovich. Tristin, 11, is in the sixth grade at the Oliver Hazard Perry School located on East Seventh Street. He is an Honor Roll caliber student and his favorite sub-

ject is math. Someday if he doesn't make it as a professional basketball player he'd pursue a career as a veterinarian.

Tristan's favorite color is yellow. His favorite food is chicken. His favorite player is Kyrie Irving, star point guard for the Boston Celtics. In his leisure time, Tristan enjoys watching Netflix movies, playing video games, and playing gin rummy with family members.

In the world of sports, our featured youngster has been busy. For the past four years, he has participated in STRP-the summer tennis/fitness and reading program called Tenacity. Tenacity is sponsored by the City of Boston and the New Balance Foundation and held annually in July and August at 23 public parks in Boston. Tristan attends lessons held at Moakley Park and this past summer made it into the finals.

In baseball, Tristan was impres-

sive on the mound last summer, boasting a 9-1 record on his South Boston Little League team, which finished the regular season in first place. He was the only ten-year old to be selected to be on the twelve-year old Williamsport All-Star team. Tristan has also played in the South Boston Youth Soccer League since he was knee high to a grasshopper and is active in the Gate of Heaven CYO basketball program.

"I like playing baseball, tennis, soccer, and basketball," Tristan said. "I like scoring goals in soccer and playing defense. I like batting and pitching in baseball but like everything about basketball. I just have a lot of fun."

Tristan's dad, Stephen, is proud of his son and rightly so. "He's doing great in school and in doing fantastic in math," said his dad. "He's a leader and helps out friends with their homework. I'm proud that he has stepped up as a leader, leading by example and helping others. He's a good kid with a good set of values."

"I love the fact that as well as he's doing in sports, Tristan's hav-



ing 'fun' and is enjoying himself," his dad added. "And I think that's important for him to do so. But... I'm more proud of his academic accomplishments."

"I'm a fortunate man," he concluded. "I have three athletes. I'm proud of his sisters. Tari is on the JV soccer and basketball teams at Boston Latin School, and Sydni, who has been battling brain cancer, has been courageous. I tell them all the time that I'm proud of them and love them."

Gatey Hoop Notes

By Kevin Devlin

On Saturday, January 13, the Gate of Heaven CYO 9th grade boys' travel teams battled it out at the Walsh Center, and Coach Matt Hogan's squad eked out a hard-fought victory, 56-48.

Gatey Blue, coached by Hogan, took an early lead, 25-5, but Coach Sean Monahan and Mike Alessandro's team, Gatey White, weren't ready to give up. They stayed focused and cut the deficit to nine at the half, 33-24. In the second half, Gatey White went on a 14-2 run to cut the deficit to four, 35-31. But then Paddy Craddock (11 pts./2 treys) and Chris Fitzgerald (7 pts./2 treys) both knocked down a pair of three-pointers, to give Gatey Blue, a 44-31 lead.

But the game was far from over as momentum shifted once again.

With 52 seconds left on the game clock, Gatey White, led by sharpshooter James Buzzell (20 pts./3 treys), Jake Harrison (18 pts.), and Conor Strickland (8 pts.) cut the deficit to three, 51-48. Craddock and Fitzgerald then found themselves at the free throw line and Coach Hogan's team survived the ordeal. To round out the scoring for Gatey Blue, Jack Matthews netted 13 points, James Arlauskas had 11 points, while Braeden Kennedy contributed 10 points.

Afterwards, in the intermediate boys' tilt, Gatey (7-1) cruised to a 75-36 win against Saint Christine's of Marshfield. For Gatey, Jonathan Walsh scored 18 points. Danny O'Neill had 15 pts., Pat McAloney had 10 pts., and Jake Donovan finished with 8 pts. Coach Greg Lally has a talent-laden team that should do well in the post season.



The Gate of Heaven CYO 9th grade boys' basketball team (Gatey Blue) is coached by Matt Hogan. The players are: Paddy Craddock, Chris Fitzgerald, James Arlauskas, Kevin Cully, Braeden Kennedy, Jack Matthews, Mike Brooks, Jack McGinn, and Ryan Hogan. (The other 9th grade team, Gatey White, was featured last week.)



The Gate of Heaven CYO intermediate boys' basketball team is coached by Greg Lally. The players are: Jonathan Walsh, Jake Donovan, Joey Mauilari, Harry Cully, Danny O'Neill, Kyle Cheevers, Joey Morris, Pat McAloney, Tadhg Kyne, and Paul McGuinness.



Only four teams are still standing. And for the seventh consecutive year, one of those final four teams in the NFL Playoffs is the New England Patriots. That's right, seven straight AFC Championship appearances for the Pats. The other three teams remaining are led by quarterbacks who have the same number of combined playoff appearances as Tom Brady does Super Bowl rings. Blake Bortles, Case Keenum, and Nick Foles have all combined for a total of five career playoff games, which is the same number of championships Brady has won.

Clearly, Brady is in a different class. And while this still is a quarterback league, there's one thing that the final four teams all have in common. They each have a top-five defense. Minnesota finished the regular season No. 1 in the NFL in points allowed per game (15.8), Jacksonville finished second (16.8), Philadelphia finished fourth (18.4), and New England finished fifth (18.5).

You might see that and try to tell me that "defense wins championships." Well, it certainly helps. But let's not forget that the Eagles wouldn't be the NFC's No. 1 seed if not for quarterback Carson Wentz, who suffered a season-ending injury

in Week 14. And it's Brady and Wentz who are at the forefront of the MVP discussion.

So, I'm sticking with my Super Bowl prediction. I took the Patriots to win it all before the season began, and I took the Patriots to win it all before the playoffs began. Looking around at the other quarterbacks remaining, I can't possibly bet against the Pats, especially when they have a top-five defense to go along with the best quarterback in the league.

Anyways, here are my picks for the AFC and NFC Championship games:

NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS (-9) over Jacksonville Jaguars

-I just told you how I feel about the Patriots' chances here. They're the No. 1 seed, which means they'll be hosting the AFC Championship Sunday at 3:05 p.m. The No. 3 seed Jaguars enter the game having defeated the No. 6 seed Buffalo Bills in the Wild Card Round and the No. 2 seed Pittsburgh Steelers in the Divisional Round. Meanwhile, the Patriots wiped the floor with the No. 5 seed Tennessee Titans in their Divisional Round game last weekend. Both teams are feeling pretty good right about now. Jacksonville players are expressing that to the public a little bit more though. Jaguars cornerback Jalen Ramsey

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

has already guaranteed his team will win Super Bowl LII. It's one of those "how dumb can you be" moments, without a doubt. But it's also a sign of just how confident the Jaguars are after going into Pittsburgh and beating the Steelers 45-42. Meanwhile, back here in New England, the Patriots are saying all the right things, as usual. You'd think that, at some point, their opponent would realize that's probably the correct way to go about it, rather than give Super Bowl guarantees before you even get there. Jacksonville has to go into Gillette Stadium and win first. And not only do I think they'll lose to the Patriots, but now that I see how cocky they are about it, I expect the Patriots to win by at least 10. More than anything, I just don't think Blake Bortles is going to come into New England and win. I expect the Patriots to stack the box, take Leonard Fournette out of the game early, and make Bortles try and beat them with his arm, which is something I don't believe he'll be capable of doing. I'll take the Patriots to win and cover at home.

PHILADELPHIA EAGLES (+3) over Minnesota Vikings

-The No. 2 seed Vikings are lucky to be in this game. If not for a horrible display of tackling in the

New Orleans Saints' secondary, Minnesota would be home watching Drew Brees try and take down the No. 1 seed Eagles in the NFC Championship Sunday at 6:40. Instead Stefon Diggs' miraculous last-second touchdown in the Divisional Round catapulted the Vikings into the conference championship, where we'll see Foles vs Keenum in Philadelphia. For the second straight game, the Eagles will be an underdog at home, which is unheard of for a No. 1 seed. But let's face it, Foles is not Wentz, and the Vikings did finish with the best defense in the regular season. But the Eagles did just beat an Atlanta Falcons team that started to look like the same Falcons who advanced to last year's Super Bowl. So, I can't just write Philly off. In fact, I'm taking them to win this game at home, mainly because it's at home. Minnesota wants to play in that Super Bowl in their own building so very badly, but Philadelphia will not be an easy place to play on Sunday. And again, the Vikings should have lost to the Saints. This is expected to be a defensive dog fight, to which, once again, I'll revert to the home team with a fan base that won't even let Keenum hear himself think. Give me the Eagles to win a close one.

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617-426-8114



The Playwright
658 East Broadway
South Boston, MA 02127
617-269-2537



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



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



Boston Beer Garden
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