



UMass Boston Campus Blindsided

*See no evil, hear no evil,
speak no evil.*

Those words seem to be guiding UMass System President Martin Meehan, as he tries to explain away the clandestine deal that the “Independent” UMass Amherst campus board of trustees approved with the bankrupt Mount Ida College. Meehan told the Boston Globe that the decision to purchase Mount Ida was made independently by the Amherst campus – and that the over-all system would not “prevent

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EDITORIAL

The Political Process is Still Alive and Well in Southie

Voting has always been a priority to most South Bostonians. In point of fact, it's been one of our claims to fame over the generations and it's encouraging to see that many of our new residents also realize the importance of casting one's ballot for who is believed to be the best candidates. And so, it was in the

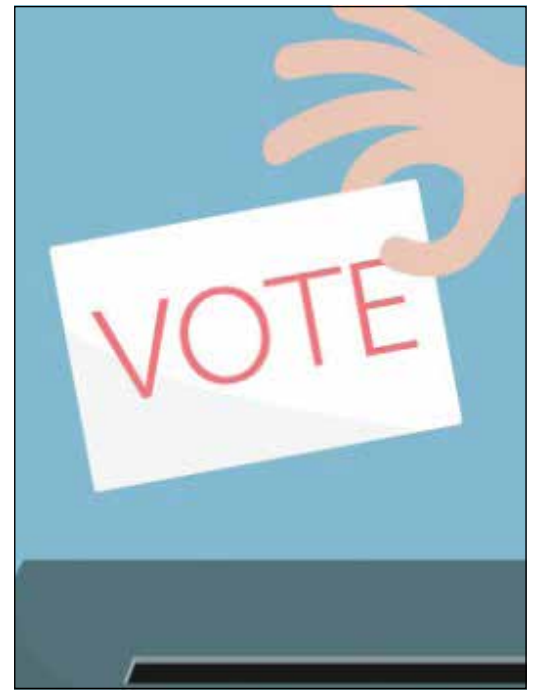
recent special primary to fill the seat of the departed Senator Linda Dorcea Forry.

The chain of events that followed is well known to residents here: Our State Representative Nick Collins had declared his candidacy for the Senate seat and easily won the special primary for that position. The final election for Senate will take place on May 1st. This

of course opens up the position of State Representative. And now the scramble is on for that position as well with a group of excellent local candidates preparing for what should be an interesting race.

Nick Collins has been a dedicated state representative. His attention to detail and willingness to take on the tough fights on behalf of his constituents has

been clearly apparent. Those looking to fill his seat, if he is victorious in the May 1st final, have a tough act to follow, but this is South Boston and the quality of candidates for public office has always been top shelf. That the political process is still alive and well in the neighborhood is something every resident can take pride in.



"Sweet April showers do spring May flowers" – Thomas Tusser

REP COLLINS HELPS SECURE INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING FOR BOSTON



State Representative Nick Collins (D-South Boston & Dorchester) voted last week with his colleagues in the House of Representatives to pass legislation that

authorizes \$200 million to reimburse municipalities for road, bridge, and infrastructure improvement projects. As part of an annual program, these dollars help mitigate the costs of repairs for cities and towns.

Nearly \$15 million was allocated to help the City of Boston pay for repairs to roads and bridges. These Chapter 90 funds are typically appropriated annually around springtime to help cities and towns improve the safety and reliability of

their infrastructure, particularly after the wear and tear of salt and sand from winter. "I am proud to stand with my colleagues and demonstrate our ongoing commitment to providing support to our partners in city government" said State Representative Nick Collins. "Everyone feels the effects of eroded roadways, and this money goes a long way in assisting the City in their repairs and maintenance to ensure that our roads are safe and efficient."

The bill is expected to be approved by the Senate and Governor in the coming weeks, and then the funds go to the municipalities to be allocated to specific projects.

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Publisher
John Ciccone

Editor In Chief
Brian R. Mahoney

info@southbostontoday.com • ads@southbostontoday.com

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The Troops are Finally Heading South

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY
John Ciccone

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

I'll start this week with a quote by President Trump that some people seem to have a big problem with, but one that I and millions of other Americans feel makes perfect sense. "For decades, Presidents made American troops defend other countries borders. Now it's time to defend our own". These words are of course in regard to his decision to send troops to our southern border to shut it down to illegal crossings, until the wall is built. Shutting it down to illegal crossings is what other nations do, so that THEY decide who comes in and who does not.

It's unfortunate, and mind boggling at the same time, that there are some Americans in positions of authority and media moguls - those on the left side of the political divide - who know full well that because of the lax border control that we've had in the past, dangerous drugs fueling the deadly opioid crisis in America have been flowing in. Law enforcement agencies on every level confirm this. Smugglers and cartel gang members have had an easy entry into American cities, using the Mexican border as their gateway. Terrorists know that slipping across the Rio Grande is one of the best ways to enter the United States with the goal of killing as many American men, women and children as they can.

By now, most Americans know why the 'open borders' crowd doesn't want the military OR a wall in place. The plan is to get as many illegals in here as possible, because the Left looks upon them as a future voting base. It's often been said that if liberal Democrats thought for a minute that the flow of illegals coming in would be voting Republican, they would be on the border building the

wall themselves to keep them out.

Most Americans have now come to realize that the same people who want open borders are pretty much the same ones who are vehemently opposed to Voter ID laws. Americans aren't stupid. We can see the connection. And the same activists, who don't have a problem with being required to show ID at the airport, cash a check, apply for a job, get a fishing or hunting license, get into school, open a bank account, drive a car and literally dozens of other things, insist that showing ID to cast a vote in an election is 'racist'. There's that word again. It has so many uses these days.

The final word, or if some prefer the term 'bottom line', is this: Our country has the right to secure our borders and regulate who comes in and who does not. People from other parts of the world, who feel they have the right to just come here if they want to, and their activist' supporters, who are doing everything they can to enable them - the safety of our country be damned as far as they are concerned - should not get to ignore our laws. And thankfully now, we have a President, who will put a stop to it. His motto is 'America First' and it's about time.

If you haven't yet seen the new movie 'Chappaquiddick', you might want to check it out. A few of us did over the weekend. I'm no movie critic and everyone has their own views, but I can tell you this, every one of us found it eye opening and very enlightening. These kinds of films are not really my type of entertainment, but this one was definitely an exception. It confirms a lot of suspicions many people have had.

And finally, this week, the news out of London England isn't good.

The city has a strict gun control policy instituted by the government, where just about no one can legally own a firearm. It was reported last week that now, the murder and crime rate in London has surpassed even that of New York City (also a no gun zone) for the first time ever. Now understand, there are still gun crimes, because as is always the case, the bad guys will always have THEIR guns. Only the good guys are unarmed now. In addition to the shootings, knowing that most people are defenseless,

criminals are also using other methods to attack innocent people. There is a huge upsurge in knife attacks, and the thugs are even throwing acid in the faces of their victims, before they rob them. The Mayor of London is currently trying to ban knives in that city. Yes, it's that ridiculous. No mention of what restrictions he'll try to put on throwing acid at people. It should come as no surprise to Americans that an increasing number of 'Brits' wish that they too had a Second Amendment.

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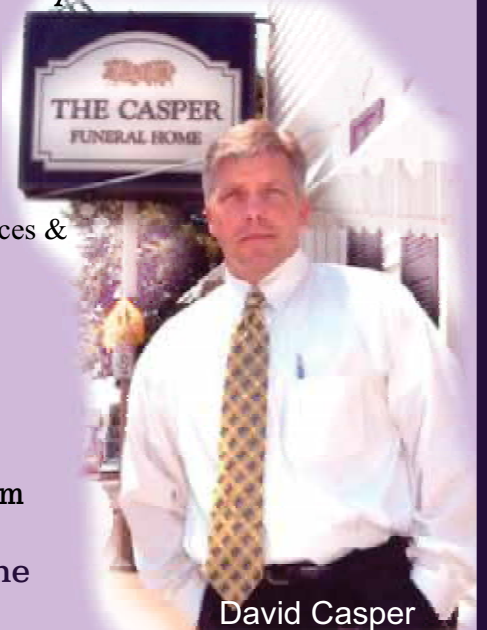
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Window Into The State House

Window Into The State House provides our readers a synopsis of important issues of interest, past and current, that are being proposed, debated or acted upon by the Massachusetts Legislature. Many issues that are not related to local city government services are acted upon and have a direct impact on daily life. They are tax policy, transportation infrastructure, judicial appointments, social services and health, as well as higher education. We will excerpt reports from the gavel-to-gavel coverage of House and Senate sessions by news sources focused on this important aspect of our lives. These sources include a look ahead at the coming week in state government and summaries and analyses of the past week, re-caps of a range of state government activity, as well as links to other news.

Baker ‘stunned, shocked, amazed’ by Mount Ida’s sudden collapse

From Gintautas Dumcius at MassLive: “Massachusetts Gov. Charlie Baker is ripping leaders at Mount Ida College, saying they let down the students and staff who now feel left in the lurch as the University of Massachusetts moves to acquire the small private institution in Newton. ‘Like everybody, I was stunned, shocked, amazed, and really disappointed by the current state of play at Mount Ida,’ Baker told reporters on Tuesday. ‘I mean, the thing that bothered me the most about that was it was pretty clear that for the past several years, this deficit that they are dealing with now has gotten worse and worse.’”

No word on whether he was stunned, shocked and amazed by UMass-Amherst spending tens of millions of dollars to buy Mount Ida at a time when the entire UMass system is under pressure to lower costs and tuition prices.

Timing is everything: UMass-Amherst and UMass-Boston suspend and downsize programs, saying they don’t have enough money

As if on cue, from Don Seiffert at the BBJ: “As the University of Massachusetts’ Amherst campus prepares to assume up to \$70 million in debt to buy (Mount Ida College), the system office has quietly suspended the awarding of two annual seed-grant programs intended to fund research that directly benefits the state’s economy, citing ‘stagnant state funding’ for public higher education.”

Meanwhile, the Globe’s Adrian Walker notices a similar belt-tightening trend at UMass-Boston -- at the same time UMass-Amherst is proposing to spend tens of millions of dollars to buy nearby Mount Ida College in Newton.

Lottery: Step right up. Win a prize that’s not worth what we say it’s worth!

CommonWealth magazine’s Jack Sullivan looks at how the Lottery’s “second-chance drawing” prizes are not exactly worth what they’re touted to be worth, from the value of a Cuisinart Convection Microwave Oven & Grill to the value of a Dewalt 12V Max Li-Ion 4-Tool Combo Kit. The spokeswoman for the private company overseeing the prize fulfillments digs a deeper hole for herself, the company and the Lottery as she explains how the firm’s business expenses are factored into the value of prizes.

Fyi: You’ll be seeing a lot of CommonWealth magazine posts today, with the magazine’s 2018 spring issue now out. Lot of good stories. Check ‘em out.

Tufts Medical CEO slams Beth Israel-Lahey merger, saying it will lead to higher medical prices

Though it can’t stop the already approved Beth Israel Deaconess-Lahey hospitals merger, the Boston City Council yesterday

went through with a public hearing on the deal – and it actually produced substantive debate.

Among others, Tufts Medical Center chief executive Michael Wagner warned the newly formed hospital network will merely lead to higher prices and siphon patients away from lower-price institutions like Tufts, reports Jessica Bartlett at the BBJ.

Suffolk DA contest: Another race with little policy differences between candidates?

At least it’s a contested election. From Adam Gaffin at Universal Hub: “The five candidates for Suffolk District Attorney took similar positions on issues ranging from reducing the number of people who go through the criminal system to protecting law-abiding immigrants from ICE at a forum sponsored by JP Progressives and the NAACP last night. Instead, they differed on their backgrounds and how that would help them change the DA’s office.”

Markey files bill to protect privacy after Facebook data-breach debacle

As Facebook’s Mark Zuckerberg was preparing to get grilled on Capitol Hill yesterday, U.S. Sens. Ed

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Council President Andrea Campbell Endorses Nick Collins For Senate

City’s first African-American female council president cites Collins’ record on

equality, housing, transportation
City Council President Andrea Campbell has endorsed Nick Collins

in the race for senator of the First Suffolk District.

“Nick Collins has a firm grasp on the needs of our district, our city and our state,” said Campbell, who in January became the first African-American woman to become Boston City Council president. “He’s a staunch advocate for his constituents and has been a leader on many key issues, including housing, transit improvement, economic equality and public safety. I’m proud to endorse Nick as our next state senator and look forward to continuing to work with him to improve the quality of life for us all.”

Campbell, 35, was born and raised in Mattapan and, like Collins, is a graduate of Boston Latin School. She has degrees from Princeton University and UCLA School of Law and served as deputy legal counsel to former Gov.

Deval Patrick. She was elected to the council in 2016. Collins has worked with Campbell on a variety of issues, including criminal justice reform, transportation, housing, public safety, the opioid epidemic and gender pay equality.

“It’s an honor to have the support of Council President Campbell,” Collins said. “She exhibits exemplary leadership qualities: commitment to constituents, unmatched work ethic, compassion and a desire to collaborate with all stakeholders. Working alongside such a great emerging leader is a privilege and together we can and will build a better Boston for us all.” In addition to Campbell, Collins has been endorsed by former Sen. Linda Dorcea-Ford, Rep. Dan Hunt, Suffolk Sheriff Steve Tompkins and the Ward 15 Democratic Committee.

Tom Tinlin Honored With Brain Aneurysm Foundation Champion Award



The Brain Aneurysm Foundation (BAF) celebrated its second annual Massachusetts Champion Awards at the UMass Club in Boston, MA. Award-winning journalist and WCVB Channel 5 Investigative Reporter Karen Anderson emceed the event. The Brain Aneurysm Foundation is the globally recognized leader in brain aneurysm awareness, education, support, advocacy, and research funding. The 2018 Champion Awards honored various members of the community who strive to educate others about the risks and symptoms of brain aneurysms.

Massachusetts Champion Award honorees include:

- **Governor Charlie Baker, Community Advocate Champion Award**
- **The Boston Globe, accepted by Columnist Nestor Ramos, Media Champion Award**
- **Ajith Thomas, MD – Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Physician Champion Award**
- **Kevan Miller – Boston Bruins, Volunteer Champion Award**
- **Tom Tinlin and Steven Trifflitti, Survivor Champion Awards**

“We are proud to honor so many great supporters of our organization,” said Christine Buckley, executive director of the Brain Aneurysm Foundation. “It’s our goal to bring people together and raise awareness for a disease that affects one in 50 people in the United States, often leading to death or lifelong disabilities.” Last year, at an event at the State House, Governor Charlie Baker elevated the level of brain aneurysm awareness in the state by declaring September 2017 Brain Aneurysm Awareness month.

Brain aneurysm survivors Tom Tinlin, former Massachusetts Department of Transportation Highway Administrator, and Steven Trifflitti, founder of Trifflitti & Costa P.C., both graciously shared their harrowing stories of survival, as chronicled by Columnist Nestor Ramos and Globe Correspondent Robert Knox in The Boston Globe. Their stories serve as a reminder that brain aneurysms can happen to anyone with little to no warning. Both were treated at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center

(BIDMC). Dr. Ajith Thomas of BIDMC and a member of BAF’s Medical Advisory Board, is being recognized for his tireless work to further research and treat brain aneurysm patients.

During the award ceremony, City of Boston Credit Union presented the BAF with a generous donation to continue the organization’s promotion of brain aneurysm awareness, education, support and research. This donation is made in honor of Tom Tinlin who is a long-time board member of the Credit Union.

Support of the honorees and fundraising efforts allows BAF to amplify its work to end the suffering of brain aneurysm disease for patients and their families.

ABOUT THE BRAIN ANEURYSM FOUNDATION

Founded in Boston and now based in Hanover, Massachusetts, the Brain Aneurysm Foun-

dation is the globally recognized leader in brain aneurysm awareness, education, support, advocacy and research funding. The foundation’s mission is to provide information about and raise awareness of the symptoms and risk factors of brain aneurysms to prevent ruptures and subsequent death and disability; work with medical communities to provide support networks for patients and families; and advance research to improve patients’ outcomes and save lives. Established in 1994, the foundation is led by Executive Director Christine Buckley and has a Medical Advisory Board that comprises more than 30 of the nation’s foremost aneurysm experts — neurologists, neurosurgeons, interventional neuroradiologists and other brain aneurysm specialists — from the country’s leading hospitals and universities.



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St. Peter Academy Students Honor Legacy of MLK

Hundreds gathered at City Hall Plaza on April 2 to honor the legacy of MLK, Jr. as we near the fiftieth anniversary of his assassination. St. Peter Academy students, Rocco Blasi (gr. 4) and Ryleigh Clapham (gr. 3), represented the South Boston community at a commemorative reading of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s final speech, "I've Been to the Mountaintop". Sponsored by the Boston Mountaintop Coalition and organized by the New Democ-

racy Coalition, the event honored King by preserving and celebrating his final powerful speech in which he stated, "I've seen the Promised Land. I may not get there with you. But I want you to know tonight, that we, as a people, will get to the promised land!" Rocco and Ryleigh joined notable Bostonians and leaders including former Gov. Deval Patrick, Mayor Marty Walsh, former Mayor Ray Flynn, City Councilor Ed Flynn, and Representative Nick Collins in this moving

tribute to the Civil Rights leader.

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 and for students in Pre-K, Kindergarten and grades 1-6. Appointments for individual tours can be made by contacting the Main Office at 617-268-0750 or by emailing SPA@StPeterAcademy.com. Join us!



Congratulations RCIA Students!

The Priests and Staff of St. Brigid and Gate of Heaven Parishes would like to welcome and congratulate Rachel, Dillon, Bryan, Jessica, Stephanie, Jonathan, Maialan and Christina on being fully initiated into the Catholic Church at this year's Easter Vigil, Saturday, March 31, 2018 at Gate of Heaven Church. A special Thank you to Mr. Robert Degre, our Coordinator of Faith Formation & Confirmation. May God Bless you all.



Window into the State House...

Continued from page 4

Markey of Massachusetts and Richard Blumenthal of New York announced new legislation designed to protect Americans' personal information from privacy breaches at Facebook and other companies, reports Shannon Young at MasLive.

As the clock ticks, small

businesses scramble for referendum-averting agreement on minimum wage

From Mike Deehan at WGBH: "Time is running out for lawmakers to prevent a prolonged ballot battle over raising the minimum wage and small businesses are looking to the Legislature to stop what could be a costly campaign. Advocates for raising the minimum wage to \$15 an hour

are charging ahead with the signature-gathering process needed to gain a slot on voters' ballots in November." As Deehan notes, polls show strong voter support for raising the minimum wage. So where's the incentive for advocates to compromise much on Beacon Hill? They're in the driver's seat on this one.

Dan Kennedy: Hedge fund will crush Denver Post revolt by

ignoring it

Media critic Dan Kennedy at WGBH says the Denver Post staff revolt against the newspaper's ultimate owner, Alden Global Capital, now the owner of the Boston Herald as well, may be noble. But it's probably doomed to failure, as Alden shows every sign of merely shrugging its shoulders and continuing to squeeze the paper for every nickel it can get.

David Biele To Run For State Representative



I would like to congratulate my friend and mentor, Representative Nick Collins, on securing the Democratic nomination for State Senator of the First Suffolk District. I have been proud to work in Representative Collins' office and on his campaign and will continue to support his efforts to become our district's next State Senator.

Following many conversations with family, friends, and neigh-

bors throughout South Boston and Dorchester, I picked up nomination papers for the office of State Representative of the 4th Suffolk District. Having worked in Representative Collins' office on behalf of the district's residents for several years, I am confident that I am the candidate most qualified to hit the ground running on the issues that matter to us all: improving the reliability and efficiency of a public transportation system faced

with overcrowding and increased demand; an exploding real estate market that is pricing too many families and young people out of the neighborhoods that have made us who we are; and an opioid crisis that is robbing too many of our friends and neighbors of their dreams, loved ones, and lives.

I have always believed in public service and have spent the majority of my professional life trying to give back to the community that has given me so much. My time working in the State House and as an attorney for the Commonwealth have shown me the importance of affecting positive change through service. If entrusted with the responsibility to serve as this district's State Representative, I will work tirelessly to ensure that all of its residents have the opportunity to earn a decent living, afford a safe place to live and raise their families, and to come together as neighbors to build a community that we can all call "home."

It is an exciting time to be in Boston. We have experienced unprecedented growth, but not without growing pains. As both a life-long resident and young professional, I understand the many concerns facing our community. I take the MBTA to work and understand our communi-

ty's expanding transportation needs. I have lost friends to the opioid crisis but, more importantly, I have seen friends thrive in recovery programs that are crucial to our community. I've run along the coastline, from the South Boston Waterfront, down to Castle Island, and continuing along the Harborwalk and out to Columbia Point. I understand the need to protect our natural resources and to ensure our community is resilient to climate change. And I know that too many are being priced out of the neighborhoods, carving the heart out of our communities and making them transitory places, instead of vibrant neighborhoods in which life-long residents and new residents can live, thrive, and enjoy a strong sense of community with their neighbors.

The 4th Suffolk District needs a leader who has the experience, knowledge, and passion to efficiently and effectively advocate for our community and work tirelessly to improve the quality of life for everyone in South Boston and Dorchester. I am excited to talk directly to residents about our shared goals and how we can accomplish them so that together we can improve the quality of life across our community for ALL residents.



MAYOR WALSH OPENS SWAN BOATS ON APRIL 14

Mayor Martin J. Walsh will host the first ride of the season on the popular Boston Swan Boats as they open at the Public Garden lagoon on Saturday, April 14, at 10 a.m. "This year the Swan Boats celebrate their 142nd season of providing joy and memories to residents and visitors in the Public Garden," said Mayor Walsh. "We're ready for spring in Boston and the tradition of joining the Paget family and local children for the first ride around the Public Garden lagoon."

This annual rite of spring is made possible thanks to the Paget family, owners and operators of the Swan Boats first launched by Irish immigrant and shipbuilder Robert Paget. Mr. Paget designed the Swan Boats

after attending the opera Lohengrin in New York City. At the end of the opera, the hero crosses a river in a boat drawn by a swan.

Mayor Walsh will be joined on the first ride of the year with students from Boston Public Schools including the Ellis Mendell Elementary School and the Higginson/Lewis K-8 School, both in Roxbury. The students are drawing pictures of the Swan Boats in art class and their work will be randomly selected from all the drawings created. All of the artwork chosen will then be on display at Boston City Hall.

2018 marks the 142nd season for the Swan Boats. The oldest and smallest boat in the fleet just celebrated its 107th season, while the newest was launched in 1993.

The swan on today's boats is made from either copper or fiberglass, depending on the age of the boat, and encloses a paddle mechanism that is used to foot propel the boat through the water. Fully loaded, each Swan Boat weighs three tons and carries up to twenty passengers. The Swan Boats are built on oak framed pontoons sheathed in copper just as they were initially constructed in 1877. After being stored in a safe place for the winter, the boats are returned to the Public Garden Lagoon in the spring with Mayor Walsh and his young guests celebrating the first ride of the season.

For more information, please visit the Swan Boats of Boston online at www.swanboats.com or call (617) 522-1966.

The Wine Guy



Diversity

By THE WINE GUY

It's said very often today that diversity gives strength to people and things, so I've decided to

see how it works for wine recommendations. No particular theme this week; just some styles and labels that I think will be fun and interesting to try.

You're going to want to wet your whistle on this delicious Guy Saget Marie de Beauregard Vouvray wine lovers! **Guy Saget Marie de Beauregard Vouvray 2015 (\$19.99)** Why? Because it's got seductive ripe fruit as well as honey, subtle spice and even toasty notes, all beautifully woven together in a stunningly bright balance. We say enjoy your first glasses with lettuce cups filled with garlicky ginger-chili chicken. Baked ham is a terrific pairing because its salt is lovely opposite the honeyed fruit of the wine. Mild to moderately spicy Asian fare also pairs well with those flavors. Or, let the wine's bright freshness be the foil for a decadent Peking duck with all the trimmings. You'll love it. To finish? A French Camembert cheese, toasted pecans and some quince paste. Et voila!

Evodia 2016, Roussillon (\$16.99) The vineyards for Evodia were ferreted out by the amazingly talented team behind Altovinum: Eric Solomon, Jean Marc Lafage and Yolanda Diaz. Yolanda Diaz, a native of Calatayud, has an intimate knowledge of the DO and its terroir – her relationships in the region are an invaluable asset to the project. The winemaking is placed in the capable hands of dynamic enologist, Jean Marc Lafage – a man Robert Parker called “irrepressible.” Jean Marc consults on projects worldwide and owns one of the Roussillon's visionary wineries, Domaine Lafage. And finally, Eric Solomon, a self-appointed Grenache practitioner, represents the finest Grenache producers in the world. Pour it with short rib crostini with cambozola cheese and cherry jam; the combination is breathtaking. Lamb burgers with mint aioli and frizzled onions is a great casual option. Garam-masala-crusted chicken with prune jus brings beautiful spice for the heady fruit in this Evodia. Or try it

with lamb cutlets and wild rice and have at least two or three bottles stacked and ready for the meal; the price is so right for that!

Walter Hansel Russian River Valley Chardonnay 2015 (\$32.99). This is a great Chardonnay with loads of honeysuckle, buttered citrus, orange and white peach notes, a medium to full body, terrific energy and purity. This is a terrific wine that tastes like a Chardonnay that should be selling for three or four times the price. So, consumers take note. Drink it over the next 4-5 years (2016-2021). This is an enviable winery run by Stephen Hansel with exceptionally high-quality Chardonnays and Pinot Noirs that he sells at modest prices, which speaks to his humility and commitment to serious wine consumers. There are more than 80 acres of estate, so it is not small, split evenly between Chardonnay and Pinot Noir. Parker, by the way, gives it 92 points.

Be diverse and enjoy them all!
Talk to THE WINE GUY at
jdris8888@gmail.com

CITY GOLF COURSES OPEN APRIL 6

Both courses to host 2018 MGA Massachusetts Amateur Championships

Mayor Martin J. Walsh has announced that the City of Boston's two municipal golf courses will open on April 6 for the 2018 season.

The City owns and operates the William J. Devine Golf Course in Dorchester and the George Wright Golf Course in Hyde Park designed by Donald Ross. Both have received national accolades as must-play courses when golfing in the Boston area. Golfers can access information on rates, season permits, monthly specials and tournaments and book tee times at www.cityof-bostongolf.com. For updates, the City's golf courses can be followed on Twitter @FranklinParkGC and @GeorgeWrightGC.

The George Wright was ranked #9 in Massachusetts Best Places You Can Play by Golfweek and the 4th best place to play public golf in Massachusetts by Golf Advisor. The William J. Devine ranked the

5th best place to play public golf in Massachusetts by Golf Advisor and was also chosen one of the top five courses in the Boston area by the Golf Channel.

In November, representatives from the City of Boston and the Massachusetts Golf Association (MGA) announced that the 110th Massachusetts Amateur Championship and the 115th Massachusetts Women's Amateur Championship will be held at the two City courses in 2018. The unprecedented move will be the first time in state history that either a men's or women's amateur golf championship will be held at a public municipal course, and both championships will reflect changes that will come following the historic merger between the MGA and the Women's Golf Association of Massachusetts.

The 110th playing of the Massachusetts Amateur Championship will be contested over five days from July 9 to 13 at both the George

Wright and the William J. Devine while the Massachusetts Women's Amateur Championship and President's Cup will be held over four days at the George Wright from July 30 to August 2.

Founded in 1938, the 18-hole par 70 Donald Ross-designed George Wright Golf Course is a hidden gem in the Hyde Park neighborhood of Boston open seven days a week through November. Improvements to the clubhouse include the addition of an accessible unisex restroom scheduled to be completed by the end of April. In addition, a new tee complex has been completed on Hole # 11 and the fairway at Hole #18 has been restored to the original Donald Ross design. The clubhouse will also continue the popular acoustic summer music series on the outdoor patio. Contact PGA Professional Scott Allen at (617) 364-2300 for more information.

The second-oldest public golf



course in America and part of the historic Emerald Necklace, the William J. Devine Golf Course at Franklin Park in Dorchester offers a pleasant golf experience only minutes from downtown Boston and is open year-round, weather permitting. Recent improvements include a brand-new fairway bunker at Hole #17 and rebuilt/restored bunkers at Holes # 2, 4, 8, 12, and 18. Contact PGA Professional Kevin Frawley at (617) 265-4084 for more information.


Recent South Boston Real Estate Sales

Property/Type	Price	Sale Date	Rooms	Baths	Sq Ft
621 East Forst St UNIT A5 Condo	\$1,520,000	2/1/18	6	2	2036
272 West Fifth Street Two Family	\$1,275,000	2/16/18	8	4	2626
141 Dorchester Ave UNIT 909 Condo	\$1,195,000	2/15/18	5	2	1763
46 Woodward UNIT PH Condo	\$949,000	2/12/18	7	3	2050
409 East Seventh Street Two Family	\$920,000	2/5/18	10	2	2208
27 Mercer St UNIT 1 Condo	\$875,000	2/14/18	5	2.5	1401
454 West Fourth Street Single Family	\$860,000	2/12/18	6	1.5	1915
15-33 Sleeper St UNIT 203 Condo	\$859,000	2/15/18	4	1	1135
606 East Seventh St UNIT 104 Condo	\$845,000	2/16/18	5	2	1103
37 Mercer St UNIT 6 Condo	\$813,380	2/15/18	4	2	1041
49 Marine Rd UNIT PH Condo	\$800,000	2/6/18	6	2.5	1705
651 East Sixth St UNIT B Condo	\$595,000	2/2/18	5	1	1065
277 Silver St UNIT 1 Condo	\$480,000	2/8/18	4	1	715
780 East Broadway UNIT 1B Condo	\$450,000	2/9/18	3	1	740

CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITATED PERSON PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, §5-304		Docket No. SU18PD090GD	Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court
In the matter of: Antonio R Laudano Of: South Boston, MA		RESPONDENT Alleged Incapacitated Person	
To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Latasha S Laudano of South Boston, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Antonio R Laudano is in need of a Guardian and requesting that (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve Without Surety on the bond.		Suffolk Probate and Family Court 24 New Chardon Street Boston MA, 02114	
The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority.			
You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of 06/10/2018 . This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.			
IMPORTANT NOTICE The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.			
WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: <u>April 04, 2018</u>			
ORDER OF NOTICE It is ORDERED that a copy of this citation be: Served, with a copy of the petition, in hand to Antonio R Laudano by a disinterested person at least <u>Fourteen (14)</u> days prior to the return date; and Served on the Department of Developmental Services and/or the United States Department of Veterans' Affairs, if interested, and served on all other interested persons as defined in G.L. c. 190B, §5-304, at least <u>Fourteen (14)</u> days prior to the return date by delivering in hand or by mailing by certified, registered, or first-class mail as described in G.L. c. 190B, §1-401; or by publishing a copy of the citation once in <u>South Boston Today</u> <u>South Boston</u> , publication to be at least <u>Seven (7)</u> days prior to the return date. (Newspaper) (Newspaper city/town)			
See Standing Order 03-09: Notice in Guardianship of Incapacitated Persons and Conservatorship Matters			
WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: <u>April 04, 2018</u>			

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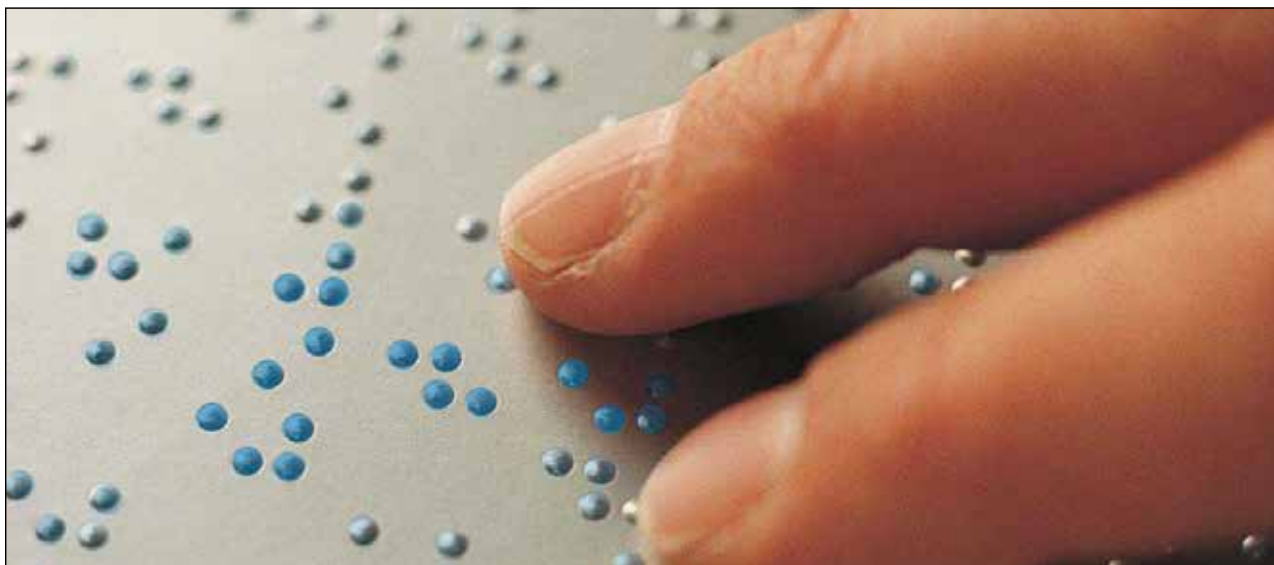
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NBP 2018 Blindfold Challenge Team for BAA 5k

Ten teams to participate in BAA 5k blindfolded to support braille literacy



National Braille Press (NBP) announced today the 10 participants for the 2018 BAA 5k Blindfold Challenge on Saturday, April 14, 2018. The Blindfold Challenge is a unique opportunity to run a 5k blindfolded with the help of a sighted guide to show solidarity with individuals who are visually impaired. Participants of the Blindfold Challenge commit to raising much needed funds for braille literacy that will support the production of children's braille books.

"During the Blindfold Challenge, athletes

take the challenge to demonstrate that with the right supports and training, individuals who are blind can accomplish great things," said Brian MacDonald, President of National Braille Press.

The 2018 Blindfold Challenge Team includes Cliff Watkin and Ege Ercan. Cliff Watkin, of South Boston, is a former NBP Trustee and current member of the corporation and has participated in the Blindfold Challenge for the past 10 years beginning

with his son as his guide at just ten years old. While his is now away at college Ege Ercan will serve as his guide.

About National Braille Press

A non-profit braille publisher and producer of braille products, National Braille Press promotes literacy for blind children through outreach programs and provides access to information by producing information in braille for blind children and adults. For more information visit www.nbp.org

South Boston Resident to Run 2018 Boston Marathon for Cathedral High School



Cathedral High School (CHS), the independent, Catholic, coeducational, college preparatory school, is pleased to announce that AJ Pappas, a resident of South Boston will run this year's Boston Marathon in support of the school and its primary mission to provide students the opportunity to develop their full potential. The school is

located in Boston's South End and serves more than 360 students of all faiths, in grades 7 through 12, all of whom receive philanthropy-based financial assistance.

On April 16, Cathedral High School's team of esteemed runners will come together for the first time to take on the 26.2-mile course. An astounding 100 percent of Cathedral High School seniors have gradu-

ated high school for 14 consecutive years, and 100 percent of seniors have also been accepted to college for 14 consecutive years – fundraising efforts like this one will continue that momentum.

Pappas, 31, is thrilled to take on his first marathon. He was first introduced to the team by Oscar Santos, Head of Cathedral High School, and loved his passion for the school and its community. "After meeting the team, I instantly knew running for CHS was the right fit for me," Pappas said. Their dedication motivated me to get back into charity work and realize the difference we can make together. I am very excited to see the impact we can make on the Cathedral High School community and cannot wait for April 16th!"

The Boston Marathon has been a longtime goal for Pappas, and he decided to commit to taking on training this year. He loves the process and has embraced training. He often travels for work, which has made training challenging at times, but he has made it work with his schedule. As for his regimen, the goal is to add miles every

week to allow his body to adjust to what a full marathon will feel like. To aid in training, he incorporates high intensity workouts with strength training. "We are so grateful for our runners who are committing a great amount of their time and energy to support our institution," said Dr. Oscar Santos, Head of Cathedral High School. "Their fundraising efforts will directly support the advancement of our facilities and curriculum, and will make an enormous impact in furthering our overall mission to provide the best educational opportunities to our students."

About Cathedral High School

Cathedral 7-12 High School is an urban, independent, Catholic, coeducational, college preparatory school serving boys and girls from grades 7 through 12 in Boston's historic South End. For more than 90 years, Cathedral High has provided a first-rate education to students of all walks of life and backgrounds from greater Boston. For more information, visit cathedralhighschool.net or visit our Facebook and Twitter pages.

SOUTH BOSTON BABE RUTH LEAGUE TRYOUT SCHEDULE

(13-16 Years Old)
FOR THE 2018 SEASON

**Saturday-April
21-1:00 PM**



**Sunday-April
22:30 PM**



**Saturday-April
28-1:00 PM**



**Sunday-April
29:30 PM**



Your age is based on how old you will be on April 30th of 2018. All tryouts will be held on the Babe Ruth League Fields at Moakley Park, which are located by the club house directly across from St. Monica's Church. If you have any questions, please call Kevin Lally at 617-943-5238. Or email him at lallycompound@aol.com

Everyone Makes a Team

UMASS continued from front page

UMass Amherst from developing a campus that they've worked hard at for years. If Boston wanted to acquire a parcel and had the capacity, they could do it as well," he said.

That's like a parent telling their recent college graduate, "you can certainly go to graduate school if you can pay for it yourself." Duh. Thanks Mom and Dad, no kidding. Meehan's statement was construed as a back-handed reference to the financial challenges of the UMass Boston campus. However, as many media outlets, news reporters, UMass Boston campus students and faculty, as well as elected officials are pointing out, the strategic plan for the Boston campus put forth by former Chancellor Keith Motley, was approved by the very system that has been blaming him for its own ignorance.

Stakeholders be damned!

This appears to be the attitude of the UMass Amherst hierarchy. Talk about pure arrogance. The adage, 'ask for forgiveness and not permission' doesn't look to be a workable strategy at this point. Attempts to question the role of the leadership at Mount Ida College and its financial state of affairs notwithstanding, Governor Charlie Baker, AG Maura Healy, Representative Nick Collins, MA Higher Education Commissioner Carlos Santiago and others have admitted to being blindsided by this move. UMass and Mount Ida signed off on the deal last week, but the state Board of Higher Education has oversight of mergers and closures. Students across the campus believe that the Amherst is jealous of Boston's growing reputation.

Representative Collins has stated that he was very concerned about where UMB is on the list of priorities. Collins expects to speak with the UMass President Meehan soon, and let him know his frustration. Collins has stated, "UMass Boston is an incredible university in

Dorchester, and a real lifeline to the city. This deal begs the question if we have our priorities straight. When you have a campus in crisis, that should be the top priority, not bailing out private institutions."

The agreement, which was approved by the UMass board of trustees in a closed-door meeting last Friday, will allow some 1,000 UMass Amherst students to be housed on the Mount Ida site, which will be known as the Mount Ida Campus of UMass Amherst. In acquiring the 72-acre Newton campus, UMass will take on the private college's debt, estimated to be in the \$50 million to \$75 million range.

Massachusetts higher education officials are demanding information from Mount Ida

College., especially the impact on students both currently attending and those who were accepted for the fall. Under the deal outlined by Mount Ida and UMass, Mount Ida students have been granted automatic admission to UMass Dartmouth, a campus about an hour away from Newton. Many students will not be eligible to enroll at UMass given that many admissions periods closed and the May 1 deadline for students to accept offers of admission at institutions of higher education fast approaching, it is likely that many of those admitted to Mt. Ida will be left without an option for continuing their education in the fall. This according to Patricia Marshall, deputy commissioner of education for student affairs.

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2018 Soccer Registration Dates

SOUTH BOSTON YOUTH SOCCER REGISTRATION

May 7 through May 12



This year we have added on a website for all information. It is www.southbostonyouthsoccer.com and facebook. You can get a registration form for players and coaches on line and print it out, but you must fill it out, pay the fee and bring it to the Curley Recreation Center.

You cannot register on line as we don't want this personal information about the kids online. Registration for the fall season will be held the week of May 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 1st 12 from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm and 9:00 am to 12 noon on Saturday, the 12th at Curley

Recreation Center on Day Boulevard (L Street Bath House) in the senior's card room.

Children from age 3 and up to 12 are invited to register now for the fall program. A new division of 3 and 4 year olds has been added. Age group's birth years for the 2018 season are as follows as of September first:

4 and under-2014, 2015

6 and under-2012, 2013

8 and under-2010, 2011

10 and under-2008, 2009

12 and under-2006, 2007

New players to the program must have a copy of their birth

certificate and proof of residency in order to play in the program. Anybody who does not sign up at this time will be put on a waiting list with no guarantee that there will be a place for him in the program.

There will be no other registration held. This is the only one we will be holding, so if you want your child to play in the fall program you must sign them up now. The fee for this year is \$30.00 per player. A separate fee of \$20.00 per player will be collected if you want your child to participate in the separate soccer clinics being run by the Liverpool Soccer Club.

Clinics will be held for the under 8 group from 6:00 to 7:00 pm on Wednesdays and Thursdays all season long.

As usual we need coaches to make the program work and this year we will be holding a mandatory coaching clinic for all coaches in order to improve the quality of play by the kids.

The dates, location and times of the clinics are the first two weeks of seasons when staff will be on hand to assist coaches in getting the games organized and started. We also need referees so if you have the time and would like to help the kids out then you should come down and register. There is

no fee for coaches or referees, but you must fill out a short background check form to be allowed to coach or referee.

The season is scheduled to open Thursday, September 6th with our annual parade of "CHAMPIONS" and the games will start on Saturday September 8th with the under 10, 12 age groups. The under 4, 6 and 8 age groups will be starting on Sunday, September 9th. This only happens if we have enough people to coach and referee. You do not have to have a child in the program to coach or referee. We need all the help we can get.

The banquet location has been shifted to the Boys and Girls Club at 230 West Sixth Street for Sunday, November 18. You can check our new website www.southbostonyouthsoccer.com and facebook.

So, remember to tell all your friends and anybody else for the dates for soccer registration so they will not lose out on the fun of playing in the program. Remember the whole idea behind the soccer program is for kids to have "FUN< FUN< FUN". See you at registration and if you have any questions or would like to sponsor a team or help out in any way you can call me Billy Baker at 617-269-7930.

FAIRY HOUSE BUILDING EVENT AT FRANKLIN PARK APRIL 19



With winter behind us, it will soon be that time of year when magical creatures reappear in New England's fields and woods. In order to accommodate the local elf and fairy community, the Boston Parks and Recreation Department will be hosting their fifth annual Fairy House Building family event on Thursday, April 19, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon at Schoolmaster Hill in Franklin Park.

Local children and families are invited to help by building tiny

homes for them. Spring is the best time to build fairy houses, experts say, providing the magical creatures with shelter for the coming summer months and the flitting season that begins in late May.

This free family event will include outdoor nature play, storytelling, books from ReadBoston, plant education from the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, scavenger hunts with the Appalachian Mountain Club's Outdoors Rx program, a visit from New England Aquarium, and face painting. Children are

encouraged to wear their favorite fairy and elf costumes to encourage their tiny guests to alight in Franklin Park. Natural materials will be provided, and youngsters are welcome to explore their surroundings to find natural elements such as sticks, stones, and leaves to adorn their fairy houses. There will also be a fairy puppet show at 11:30 a.m.

Located in Franklin Park's historic 220-acre forest among oak and pine trees overlooking the William Devine Golf Course, Schoolmaster

Hill provides the perfect location for fairy and elf habitat that recognizes their connection to the earth by utilizing building materials from the woods around them.

Schoolmaster Hill is located on Circuit Drive between the William Devine Golf Course Clubhouse and Shattuck Hospital. For more information, please call the Boston Parks and Recreation Department at (617) 961-3047, or visit online at www.boston.gov/parks or www.facebook.com/bostonparksdepartment.

TYNAN HAPPENINGS

INSTRUCTIONAL BASKETBALL

The Instructional Basketball for 5-7-year olds is going strong. Last week the children enjoyed a 3 on 3 Drill/Game. As their numbers were called each team proceeded to play a full court game 3 on 3. This young class has displayed incredible skills for their age. The upcoming talent in Southie for basketball is on the move. Stars of the week were Sammy Mulrooney, Ronan Foley, Will Christino and Colin Conley.

INDOOR GOLF CLINIC

The Spring 6-week Indoor Golf Clinic began on Wednesday, March 28th. The youth class is open for boys and girls ages 7-17 and will be from 6-7 pm. The adult class will follow from 7-8 pm. The clinic is a great opportunity for individuals to learn techniques on their swing, putting, and pitching. The instructors do a fabulous job each year. Hard workers of the week were Max Donovan, Jake Rae, Gianna Tassi, and Brody Young.

GIRLS FITNESS CLASS

The girls did a fantastic in class last week. Amanda McCarthy, Fitness Instructor, had everyone on their toes and working hard. There are still slots available for any girl 10 and over to register. Classes are held on Monday nights from 6-7 pm.

YOUTH BASKETBALL LEAGUE

The first game last week was a thriller between the Rockets and Bucks. The score at half time was tied 15-15 with both teams exchanging baskets. In the second half the score remained close with the Bucks in the lead throughout. With minutes remaining, the Rockets fought back to regain the lead and eventually the victory. Evan Pierce and Ryan McGarrell had 7 points apiece for the Rockets. Sean Costello had 6 points and Mario Blasi 5 points for the Bucks.

In the second game of the afternoon, Aidan Colton had a strong game for the Timberwolves scoring a season high of 16 points, leading his team to victory against the 76ers. Brayden Buckley had a strong game for the 76ers, scoring 8 points.

YOUTH HOCKEY LEAGUE

In the first game, the Predators took on Vancouver in a close one.

Each team played hard, exchanging goals. Vancouver came back to take the victory, by the score of 7-6. Aidan Colton had 2 goals for Vancouver. Thomas Brooks and Kyle Greeley scored 2 goals apiece for the Predators.

The second game was played between the Jets and Knights. The Jets fought back to take the victory, by the score of 8-6. Rocco Blasi and Evan Pierce had 3 goals each for the Jets. Ryan McGarrell had 3 goals and Sam



Flood 2 goals for the Knights.

COED VOLLEYBALL PLAYOFFS

The Adult Coed Volleyball had two great games last week. The first game was between Team 1 and Team 5. Team 1 took the first match by the score of 21-16. Team 5 came back and took the next two games by the scores of 21-13 and 21-18 to advance to the Championship game.

The second game also went 3 games, proving to be a thriller. Team 6 came out strong and won the first by the score of 21-16. Team 2 fought back to take the next two

games, by the scores of 21-16 and 22-20 and will face Team 5 for the Championship game this week. Good Luck to both teams!!

MIDDLE SCHOOL/EARLY HIGH SCHOOL TUTORING

Thanks to the SBCDF, we were able to construct a tutoring program for middle school and high school youth who are in need for one-on-one math and/or other homework help assistance. Contact youth worker, Katie O'Connell, @ the Tynan Community Center for further details. (617) 635-5110.

South Boston Resident to Run Marathon for Suicide Prevention Awareness

South Boston resident native Erin Rogers will be running in the 122nd Boston Marathon for a very personal reason. Erin will run as part of Samaritans Marathon Team to bring awareness to suicide prevention and in honor of her Aunt Kathy and close family friend Zachary Ford, who both died by suicide. This is her first full marathon.

This is the 11th consecutive year that Samaritans, a suicide prevention organization serving the Greater Boston and Metro West communities, has received bib numbers for

their Marathon Team. The donation was made to help Samaritans generate awareness about the issue of suicide, educate the public about suicide prevention, and raise much-needed funds. All proceeds generated from this year's team will benefit Samaritans' suicide prevention

services including our 24/7 Crisis Services phone and text Helpline, suicide prevention workshops for schools, businesses and community groups, and SafePlace support groups for those who have lost someone to suicide.



Sal's Club Hoop Champs *Defeat Welch Club to capture league title*

By Kevin Devlin

On Tuesday evening, March 27, at the Tynan Community Center gymnasium, Sal's Club defeated Peter Welch's Gym Club, 77-62, to win the South Boston Basketball Association men's winter league championship. South Boston Today's MVP was sharpshooter, Miscal Vislaint, who netted 27 points, including five three-pointers.

In the first half, Sal's Club went on an 11-0 run to take a 26-12 lead. The Peter Welch's Gym Club subsequently went on a 6-0 run to cut the deficit; but still trailed at the half, 43-28. In the second half, both teams continued to knock down three-pointers. With 16:17 left on the game clock, Sal's

Club led 50-35, and it seemed as if they'd cruise to victory. Yet their opponent wasn't about to pack it in. The Peter Welch's Gym Club went on a 9-2 run to cut into the lead, and then with 8:22 remaining, trailed by only five, 61-56. But Sal's Club was determined, and didn't want this one to slip away, holding off their foe during the final five minutes to win the game.

For the Peter Welch's Gym Club, Rick McNair was tremendous, scoring 24 points, including four three-pointers from downtown. Mike Balzarini had 16 points (four treys), James Evans had nine points (three treys), while Jay Bramwell had seven points. To round out the scoring for the champs, John Hynes had 18 points including two three-

pointers. Marty Ridge was a monster off of the glass and had 11 points. John Costello also had 11 points (including three treys) while Mike Kinahan had eight points.

It was another great season-and a hard-fought championship tilt-for the local men's league, overseen by Commissioner Eddie "Wilt" Curran. "It was a great, winter hoop season at the Tynan," said Curran. "The games were competitive and the talent level (these guys can play) was evident throughout the season. "I would like to give a shout-out to the Tynan Community Center staff for allowing us to use the gym," Curran added. "Tynan Program Supervisor Kathy Davis and her staff are special as far as I'm concerned.

"I'd also want to thank the sponsors," he concluded. "Without their generosity, this league, which is dedicated to the memory of the late John "Injun" Horan, would be in the history books. The sponsors are Sal's Restaurant, The Broadway, the Quietman Golf Committee, Southie Auto Service, Sidewalk Café, Cranberry Café, Peter Welch's Gym, and Sullivan's Insurance Agency.

Commissioner Curran is looking for men's hoop teams to play in the summer league on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. The games are played at the Michael Pano basketball courts located within "M" Street Park. Games begin in May and those interested can contact Ed Curran at eddiecurran@outlook.com



Pictured are the South Boston Basketball Association men's winter league champions, the Sal's Club. The players are: Ed "Wilt" Curran, Jeff Powers, Joey Chapin, John Hynes, Scott Lewis, John Costello, Marty Ridge, Mike Kinahan, and Miscal Vislaint.



Pictured are the South Boston Basketball Association men's winter league finalists, the Peter Welch's Gym Club. The players are: Rick McNair, James Evans, Kobe Ajoko, Mike Balzarini, Jay Bramwell, Tommy Moore, and Matt Smith (not pictured).



Certified (IAABO) basketball officials, Julius Leary (left) and David Shaw, did a tremendous job officiating the championship game.

Getting Ready To Play Ball

Pictured last Tuesday evening, March 27, at the Tynan Community Center gymnasium are girls attending a pre-season clinic for the South Boston Girls' Softball League. The clinic is being held on Tuesday evenings until April 24. It's open for 8 and under girls from 6 p.m. until 7 p.m., and then from 7 p.m. until 8 p.m. for girls aged 9 through 18. The season is from May 1 through June 30. Registration is open and to register just go online to www.southboston-girlssoftballleague.com





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

The Stanley Cup Playoffs begin this week, and the Nashville Predators are the favorite to win it all at +375. The Tampa Bay Lightning have the second-best odds at +550, and the Bruins have the third-best odds at +750.

Call me crazy, but the Washington Capitals at +1200 to hoist la Coupe sounds like a pretty good bet. I get it, the Caps crap the bed this time of year, every year. But you have to believe that Alex Ovechkin is going to have a serious playoff run at some point in his career. At +1200, it's tempting to pick this to be his year.

Either way, predicting the Stanley Cup winner is the probably the toughest prediction to make in sports. It's the sport where the phrase "just get into the tournament" makes the most sense.

Here in Boston, we know the Bruins are in. And we feel pretty good about them as they take on the Toronto Maple Leafs in the first round. But what if Leaf's goaltender Frederik Andersen turns into a brick wall? It at least gives Toronto a shot. And a shot is something that every team in the Stanley Cup Playoffs has if their goaltender gets hot.

One team that has no shot of winning a championship this year is the

Boston Celtics. Kyrie Irving is out until next season, which means the C's might not even get out of the first round. I hope I'm wrong, but as good as Jaylen Brown and Jayson Tatum are, they're just not at the level to carry this team to the NBA Finals. Not yet at least.

I still wouldn't bet against LeBron James in the East, so I expect the Cleveland Cavaliers to be playing in the Finals. And in the West, even though the Houston Rockets are the No. 1 seed and have the most wins in the NBA, I wouldn't bet against the No. 2 seed Golden State Warriors, even if Steph Curry misses some playoff time with his current knee injury.

The Warriors still have Kevin Durant, and they're still the team to beat in the West. I don't care what James Harden has to say about it.

The Red Sox entered this week's Yankees series at Fenway having won eight straight after losing on Opening Day in Tampa Bay. The bullpen has some questions, but if starters Chris Sale and David Price keep pitching like they did in their first two starts of the season, then you can bet on a third straight division title.

—There was another Patriots report last weekend. It came from the Boston Herald, and said that Bill

Belichick called out Rob Gronkowski in front of other players last season for being a TB12 client.

That sounds like a leak from a player. It's probably coming from Gronkowski. In fact, I would bet you any amount of money in the world that the source to that report is Gronkowski.

At this point, it just sounds like whining. And the more I hear about how Patriots players are unhappy with Belichick, the more I side with Belichick. If Gronkowski wasn't so damn dominant I would be telling you the Patriots should just trade him right now. But they can't trade him now. That wouldn't make any sense.

But there's a reason that Belichick has been so successful over the years. It's because he does things his way. We've heard his way isn't always the most pleasurable. It's funny though. Whenever they're playing in February, I don't hear any Patriots players complaining about it.

So I wish they'd stop complaining about it now. Because the Patriots still have another Super Bowl to win while Tom Brady is young enough to throw a football.

—I interrupt this regularly-scheduled programming to remind you to subscribe to my YouTube channel

(youtube.com/DannyPicard) and check out my new series, "363: OFF THE AIR."

Finally, how can I not tell you what I thought of WrestleMania 34 on Sunday? Well, I thought it was a very good night for the WWE. It was a little too long of a show, but it was highly entertaining all night long.

Ronda Rousey had the best performance of the night. Charlotte Flair vs Asuka was the most exciting match of the show. Daniel Bryan's return was awesome. The Undertaker returned to make quick work of John Cena and went out on top. AJ Styles vs Shinsuke Nakamura was a somewhat disappointing match until Nakamura's heel turn after Styles' win. And Brock Lesnar beating Roman Reigns and retaining the Universal Championship was the biggest surprise of the night.

Everyone thought Lesnar was leaving for UFC, so the assumption was that Reigns would win the title and have his true WrestleMania moment.

We all forgot that Vince McMahon is a genius.

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MARKETING STARTER KIT

May 1 | District Hall | 75 Northern Ave

Friends of Fort Point To Host One-Day Artists Marketing Conference

WHAT: On Tuesday, May 1, 9-5pm, join Friends of Fort Point Channel and District Hall for a one day marketing conference for local artists, presented as part of ArtWeek 2018.

Art CAMP is a one-day conference focused on giving artists essential practical marketing skills that they can immediately implement to boost their brand, sales, and visibility of their business. Through focused introductions to entrepreneurial concepts, artists will walk away with tangible takeaways, skills, and resources to help them market themselves and their art more effectively. This conference is open to professional and semi-professional artists with an interest in taking their marketing to the next level.

The official schedule and lineup of speakers will be released in the coming weeks. Attendees can expect sessions, panels, and hands-on workshops focused on building a social media presence, creating an engaging website, making a pitch, salary negotiation, throwing the best party, promoting work in print publications, and more. All attendees will leave with tangible takeaways, fact sheets, and presentation slides. PLUS artists will leave with free professional head shots.

In the evening, all Art CAMP attendees plus the general public are invited to join us for a special panel discussion co-presented by SPARK Boston. Chief Chat: Representation in the Arts will feature Julie Burros, City of Boston Chief of Art and Culture; Catherine Morris, Founder and Executive Director of BAMS Fest; and Sneha Shrestha, City of Boston AIR Fellow. The discussion will be about how Boston area artists can promote themselves and their communities with a focus on inclusivity and representation. This panel is from 6-8pm at Industrious (22 Boston Wharf Rd) and is free and open to all with registration.

WHEN & WHERE:

Art CAMP

Tuesday, May 1, 2018

9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

District Hall, 75 Northern Ave, Boston

Chief Chat:

Representation in the Arts

Tuesday, May 1, 2018

6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Industrious, 22 Boston Wharf Rd, Boston

PRICE:

Art CAMP: Crafting an Arts Marketing Plan- \$40 (includes lunch)

Tickets: www.ArtCampBoston.org

Registration: www.ChiefChatArts.eventbrite.com

CONTACT:

Rachel Borgatti, Executive Director, Friends of Fort Point Channel,
info@friendsfpc.org 617-933-8399



DISTRICT HALL