



## The Supreme Court Opens Up The Floodgates

The Supreme Court decision to overrule a nationwide ban on sports betting is likely to have significant effects on Massachusetts. Boston-based DraftKings, one of the leading daily fantasy sports companies, has already said it will enter the sports betting industry. “Our mission has always been to bring fans closer to the sports they love and now, thanks to the wisdom of the Supreme Court, DraftKings will be able to harness our proven technology to provide our customers with innovative online sports

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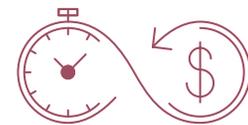
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# EDITORIAL

## Resident Parking For Our Local Merchants

Speaking with some of the business owners in the neighborhood, you'll find that many of them have a problem that so far, has no solution: Where to park if they don't actually live here.

Resident Parking, some like it, some don't. But in some cases, it can be

a problem for business owners, many of whom may not be South Boston residents but have been with us for years and have generously supported our community. The resident parking rules as they stand now have been detrimental to some of them. For example, local business owners, especially along

Broadway, who have been here for decades or longer constantly get ticketed and fined for not having a resident sticker on their vehicles. These are folks who own stores and shops, pay taxes to the city but still get penalized, sometimes daily, for not having that sticker on their window.

Perhaps City Hall could

look into the possibility of coming up with parking waivers in the form of a placard for our loyal local merchants, even if it's just for the hours that they are open for business. Realistically, local shop owners could, if they wanted to, open their stores in other towns, but instead, choose to bring their business

here, often providing jobs to residents.

Allowing our local businesses to at least park here, while they're working (if they can find a spot) without getting that bright orange surprise under their wiper blade, could be not only a nice but a commitment to encouraging neighborhood business success.

*"I want there to be a level of respect between everybody" – Kenny Chesney*



## Flynn Supports Proposal to Ban Investor Units

Boston City Councilor Ed Flynn met this week with concerned South Boston residents regarding short-term rentals platforms like AirBnB and Investor Units - entire buildings or units that are not owner-occupied and strictly used for AirBnB and short-term rentals. Councilor Flynn and neighbors discussed the qual-

ity of life issues that arisen in the neighborhood due to Investor Units and absentee landlords.

Flynn declared that he will support upcoming proposals to ban Investor Units so that corporations are unable to buy up housing stock and drive displacement in our neighborhoods. In addition, Flynn noted he supports allowing owner-occupied properties to

engage in short-term rental activity.

Flynn said, "These Investor Units are essentially unregulated hotels with absentee landlords that are skirting the rooming house laws; however, they're not held to the same public safety requirements as hotels. There are big corporations taking our housing stock, displacing residents and driving up rents. They affect the

quality of life for our residents due to issues like trash removal, parking, and noise. I will vote in support of upcoming proposals that ban Investor Units, while permitting owner-occupied properties to participate in short-term rentals."

For more information, please contact Councilor Flynn's office at 617-635-3452 or Ed.Flynn@Boston.Gov.

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# The Information Center



## Some Noteworthy Comments from Readers

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY  
John Ciccone

Note: talk back to John Ciccone by email at [jciccone@southbostontoday.com](mailto:jciccone@southbostontoday.com)

It's been said that in New England, winters go by with the swiftness of a snail pulling a boulder, while spring and summer fly by with the speed of light. So even though it's still just May, August will be here before we know it.

Once upon a time, Massachusetts gave people a 2-day holiday from its 6.5% sales tax on a designated weekend in August. Shoppers and businesses loved it. But some of our politicians? Well, not so much. The topic came up at the state house 2 weeks ago and Governor Charlie Baker said he would be in favor of bringing back the August weekend sale tax holiday. But Speaker of the House Robert DeLeo and the new Senate President Harriet Chandler said not so fast or "They would look at it very carefully". Suspected translation: 'Not if we can help it'.

Said one reader in a call to this newspaper "What is it about liberal Democrat politicians? They would rather have all their wisdom teeth pulled out with a rusty pair of pliers and with no anesthesia, than give taxpayers even the smallest tax break. That massive pay raise, worth tens of millions of dollars, that the legislators voted for themselves a couple of years back must have taken up all the available money. It's funny how that works".

With the confirmation hearings in DC taking place earlier for CIA Director nominee Gina Haspel, the subject of 'Water Boarding' came up as a concern by some US senators, who feel the practice is cruel and savage torture. The concerned senators said that they would oppose Ms. Haspel, because she was part of the CIA when it was said to have Water Boarded captured terrorists to get information from them. In response, another reader wrote in to say that she has no problem with Water Boarding terrorists, if it will get them to divulge vital information that could save American lives. She went on to say "Each time I

see video of the planes flying into the World Trade Center and of terrorists cutting the heads off of their prisoners, I become even more in favor of using the technique against them. Sorry, but I cannot and will not feel compassion for those animals. I never thought I'd see the day when our leaders would worry about offending the sensibilities of the terrorist enemies of our country who have vowed to kill each and every one of us if they ever get the chance". It is hoped that when Gina Haspel takes over as CIA director, she directs the agency to do what it must to protect American lives.

Great news for fans of the big hit TV show 'Last Man Standing'. It's coming back! As many of you know, there was outrage and a massive backlash when ABC cancelled the show. It is widely believed that ABC took that action because of the Conservative political leanings expressed by the star of the show Tim Allen. ABC denied it, but the viewing public wasn't buying ABC's excuses. What followed was a massive letter writing campaign and petitions with millions of signers demanding the show be brought back. The pressure was on. It soon became apparent to those in control of ABC that the show's popularity was huge, and the fans of the show were passionate about bringing it back. ABC hesitated and waited too long. FOX stepped in and has revived it. Said one reader who wrote in to SBT "I used to look forward all week to watching the show. I was sad when it was cancelled, but now I can't wait to see the new episodes".

Now for those who may be unfamiliar with 'Last Man Standing', millions of Americans think it's great, yes including myself. It's a very funny show. Like the return of 'Roseanne', it does have its share of Conservative political content, which helps a bit to offset the rest of television which leans mostly to the

left. The fact that Last Man Standing was brought back, after being cancelled because of political reasons, shows the power the public has when they put their collective minds to something. They responded, made their voices heard and accomplished their goal. Oh, and as for Tim Allen himself, he could not be more pleased and humbled by the support he received. And as he said, he'd rather be on FOX than on ABC anytime.

Finally, for this week, the State of California is back in the news once again with a proposal in their state legislature to eliminate either the day designated to

observe the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln or George Washington and replace it with 'International Workers Day' on May first – May Day. This is a holiday that is celebrated in Communist Countries around the world. Is anyone really surprised? But the big surprise just might be coming in the next election in that state, as voters there have finally realized that their state house has been taken over by crazy leftist politicians, who have made the state the laughing-stock of the nation. There is a movement, a 'wave' if you will, to clean house when it's time to vote this year.

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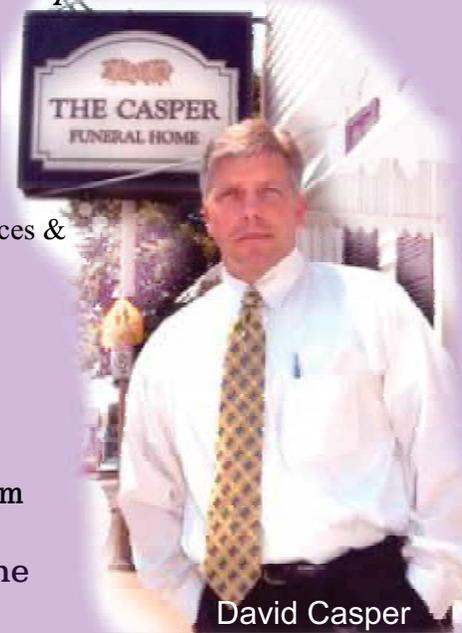
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## Window Into The State House

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.

### **State leaders take it slow (for now) on sports betting**

As other states vow to move as quickly as possible to approve sports betting in the wake of yesterday's big Supreme Court ruling, state leaders seem to be taking a slower wait-and-see approach in Massachusetts. Gov. Charlie Baker said yesterday that gambling on sports is "certainly something we should look at," reports Gintautas Dumcius at MassLive. House Speaker Robert DeLeo seems cautious, saying it remains a "big question" whether action can or will be taken this session, reports SHNS's Colin Young at the Sentinel & Enterprise. Ditto Senate President Harriette Chandler.

But the Herald's Joe Battenfeld and Hillary Chabot write that Beacon Hill is merely experiencing a calm before the storm, predicting there will be a "feeding frenzy" of lawmakers, lobbyists and gaming interests battling over the "spoils of the lucrative new business."

Indeed, the state's gaming companies are already mobilizing

to get a piece of the sports-betting action, including MGM and the Plainridge Park Casino, reports Gintautas Dumcius at MassLive. The lead of the day goes to the BBJ's Kelly O'Brien: "After spending several years and millions of dollars convincing state legislatures that it's not a gambling operation, daily fantasy sports startup DraftKings Inc. says it will start pursuing gambling licenses. The turnaround is a result of a Supreme Court decision on Monday."

### **Kerry Healey to step down next year as head of Babson College**

Kerry Healey, the former lieutenant governor and the first female president of Babson College, will be stepping down as head of the Wellesley-based business school next June, six years after taking the helm at Babson.

### **UMass-Boston faculty vote no confidence in Meehan and trustees**

Speaking of higher education: As senators prepare for tomorrow's State House hearing

on the planned UMass-Amherst takeover of Newton's Mount Ida College, the faculty at nearby UMass-Boston want to make one thing clear: They're not happy with the proposed deal. Yesterday, the university's faculty council declared "no confidence" in UMass president Marty Meehan and trustees, saying the Mount Ida deal will only weaken UMass-Boston, reports the Globe's Aimee Ortiz. Meanwhile, the Globe, in an editorial, is blasting Mount Ida president Barry Brown for planning to skip tomorrow's Beacon Hill hearing.

### **GOP candidate makes Rosenberg scandal an issue in race against Eldridge**

Margaret Busse, an Acton Republican who's challenging Democrat Sen. Jamie Eldridge, is going there. From SHNS's Katie Lannan: "In a campaign newsletter, Margaret Busse calls for 'some new thinking and fresh blood in an institution that needs to change,' saying 'the scandal surrounding ex-Senate President Stan Rosenberg pulled the curtain

back on the corruption that exists in our state government.'"

### **'Court to Texans: Leave your AK-47s at home if you come to Massachusetts'**

From Universal Hub's Adam Gaffin, of course: "The Supreme Judicial Court (yesterday) upheld a Texas native's conviction for illegal possession of an assault weapon and illegal possession of another gun, ruling that the Second Amendment still gives Massachusetts the right to ban assault weapons and regulate ownership of other guns."

### **Handy who's-who guide to Dem presidential hopefuls ...**

It's not a chart. It's not a list. It's more like a one-dimensional bobbing heads summary by the Washington Post of all the potential Democratic presidential candidates, including U.S. Sen. Elizabeth Warren and former Gov. Deval Patrick, and there sure are a lot of potential candidates. Curiously, Seth Moulton, Joseph Kennedy III and John Kerry aren't listed/seen/portrayed, whatever.

## Laborers Local 223 Endorses David Biele for State Representative

**D**avid Biele, a lifelong South Boston resident and local attorney running in the Democratic Primary for State Representative, has been endorsed by Dorchester-based Laborers Local 223. Biele is running for State Representative for the 4th Suffolk District – a seat that was recently vacated by former Rep. Nick Collins when he was elected to the State Senate this spring.

This endorsement is the first labor endorsement in the 2018 campaign to represent the South Boston and Dorchester district on Beacon Hill.

Biele said, "I am honored to have been endorsed by Laborers Local 223. As someone who grew up in a union family here in South Boston, I was taught the value of hard work and community engagement. I know how much organized labor does to support working families and retirees throughout our communities. As State Representative, I will be committed to supporting job creation and economic opportunity in our neighborhoods, investing in our public schools, supporting our seniors and veterans, and giving the community a loud voice in government."

Biele is a lifelong resident of South

Boston where he has been deeply engaged with local community-based organizations. He serves on the board of the Harry McDonough Sailing Center and is actively involved with the South Boston Boys & Girls Club, South Boston Special Kids and Young Adults, and TEAM Mentoring Program through Catholic Charities' Labouré Center. Biele was a longtime staffer to Nick Collins in his State Representative Office, working on policy, legislation, and constituent services. He is a graduate of Boston Latin School, Boston College, and Boston College Law School.



## SENATOR NICK COLLINS SWORN IN TO FIRST SUFFOLK DISTRICT SEAT

### New senator appointed to several legislative committees

Newly-elected Sen. Nick Collins was sworn in to his new position today by Gov. Charlie Baker, Lt. Gov. Karyn Polito and the Governor's Council and was appointed to several legislative committees by Senate President Harriette Chandler.

"It was an honor to be sworn into the Senate by Gov. Baker, Lt. Gov. Polito and the Governor's Council," Collins said. "I'm also honored to have been appointed by the Senate President to several key legislative committees. I look forward to getting to work with my new colleagues to improve the lives of the people of Dorchester, Mattapan, Hyde Park, South Boston and the entire Commonwealth."

Collins, who served four terms as the State Representative for the Fourth Suf-

folk District, was elected as senator for the First Suffolk District on May 1. The district includes Dorchester, Mattapan, South Boston and sections of Hyde Park. Chandler appointed Collins to several committees, including naming him the chair or vice-chair of three committees. Among his assignments:

- Chair of the Joint Committee on Export Development;
- Vice-Chair of the Joint Committee on Consumer Protection and Licensure;
- Vice-Chair of the Senate Committee on Bonding, Capital Expenditures and State Assets;
- Senate Committee on Post Audit and Oversight;
- Joint Committee on Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities;
- Joint Committee on Public Health;
- Joint Committee on Transportation



## Jim Brett Inducted Into Junior Achievement Hall of Fame

For more than two decades as President and CEO of The New England Council, James Brett has led efforts to promote economic development throughout New England, supporting innovative initiatives and policies that create jobs and improve the quality of life.

Recently he was honored by an organization that played a role in his career path – at the beginning.

The Junior Achievement program honored Jim Brett as the first inductee into the Northern New England Junior Achievement Alumni Hall of Fame. Junior Achievement is a nonprofit, national program that provides after school education to help young people gain the knowledge and skills they need for economic success. The core programs focus on work readiness, entrepreneurship, and financial literacy.

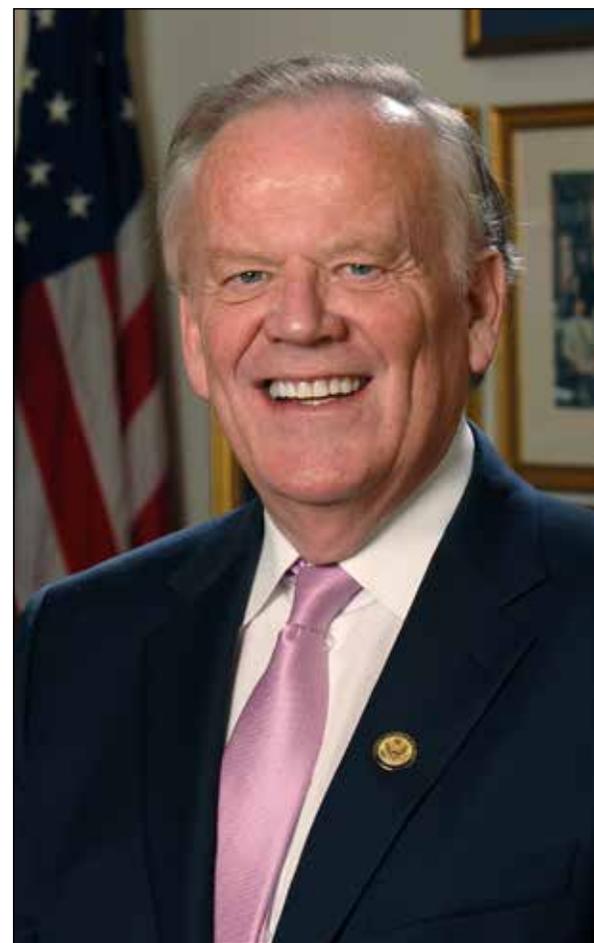
In high school, Brett participated in the Junior Achievement Company Program. His team developed a thoughtful invention to help elderly people open jars. Through the program, Brett learned many important aspects of running a business including team collaboration, marketing, and understanding how to calculate expenses and generate profits. "These were important lessons that stayed with me long after high school," Brett said. "Junior Achievement offered a unique educational experience and I learned skills that I may not have been exposed to in school."

After his college years, Brett started a career in public service. In his role as a State Representative, Brett held a series of leadership positions including chairmanship of the Banking Committee and the Committee on Taxation. His work largely fo-

cused on creating economic opportunity in the state.

"The New England Council brings together the public and private sectors to develop the best ideas for economic development, job growth, and a high quality of life for the region," Brett said. "All people should have access to that success and an opportunity to work, live safely, and have quality medical care and social support. Some of the more vulnerable members of our community – people with disabilities – need a voice in this planning."

Junior Achievement is the world's largest economic education organization dedicated to inspiring and helping young students gain the skills they need for economic success. Each year, the program reaches more than 4.8 million students across the country.



# Packages Continue to be Stolen from Door Steps in Southie



## SBT Staff Report

**N**ews reports and calls to police and to South Boston Today confirm that there are still thieves

prowl the South Boston Neighborhood looking for delivered packages to residential homes and stealing them if the opportunity presents itself. A few months back, two suspects

were arrested for this crime and most thought that would be the end of the package stealing spree that was taking place. But it continues. FOX News/ Boston Channel 25 ran a story over the weekend about packages, containing Mothers Day gifts that were taken from at least on door step in South Boston on East Second Street. The same thing is happening in other parts of the city; particularly the South End.

There are also reports of vehicle break-ins going on in South Boston so it's best to make sure your car, SUV or Pickup is locked even in the day time.

Police will tell you that if you see unusual activity or suspicious looking people lurking about near your home or the homes of your neighbors you should call 911 and they will respond. Get a description of the people and if they are in a vehicle, try to get the plate number of the car. One tactic of the thieves is to follow FEDEX, UPS or Postal Delivery trucks on their delivery routes to their drop off addresses, wait for an opening and then move in to grab them.

In the past, residents have asked for advice about what to do to better secure their homes and also how to prevent or

catch people that would steal delivered packages from their door steps. There are a variety of options. A dog in the home is a great deterrent to keeping burglars out. The sound of a barking dog is something most intruders don't want to deal with. There are even motion detectors you can buy that will sound like an actual dog when it detects movement or tampering with a door or window. Standard alarms can be purchased for as little as \$50 all the way up to and over a thousand dollars. Prices on security cameras have been steadily dropping making them affordable for any budget. You can even buy Game Cameras used by hunters and nature watchers for as little as \$25; excellent for putting in your windows or installing in your back yard and they take excellent, time stamped photos and video and the best part is that no matter which equipment you use and how much you pay, all of them work pretty well.

We live in a time when many people are gone all day and/or all weekend and having items that you order from Wal-Mart or Amazon delivered to your front door is a wonderful convenience rather than spending valuable time going to 'brick and mortar' stores in person to make your purchases. But unfortunately, along with this new convenience comes the danger of thieves grabbing them before you even get to open the box if they are delivered to your door and there is no one home to accept them.

So, take precautions as best you can to protect your delivered purchases and by all means, keep a look out on your block for the thieves preying on local residents. With vigilance, luck and cooperation with our local police, we will hopefully put this latest group of thieves out of business and into a jail cell.

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# Free Dental Care for Veterans on June 9th



Aspen Dental has announced that they will be bringing their 'Healthy Mouth Movement' campaign to the Boston area on June 9th which will offer free dental care for up to 5000 veterans. It's called Aspen Dental's Annual Day of Service. The Healthy Mouth Movement was started by Aspen Dental back in 2014 and has provided free visits and care to over 17,000 patients. Below is what Aspen Dental states is the company's motivation for the program:

'Achieving oral health is especially challenging for the majority of US Veterans as they are not eligible for dental health benefits through the Veteran's Administration unless they are 100% disabled, have a service related mouth injury or were a prisoner of war. 'Day of Service' is all about thanking veterans for their service in the best way the we at Aspen Dental know how and helping to empower them with the gift of a healthy mouth. This year, we hope to give free dental care to approximately 5000 on that one special day.'

Interested veterans can make appointments in advance by taking the following steps: Beginning now, local veterans can call 1-844-277-3646 to make an appointment. Appointments must be made in advance and it will be on a first come/first served basis. The closest participating Aspen Offices are in the following locations: Quincy, Medford, Waltham, Woburn, Brocton, Dedham and Natick (Other locations are



a bit farther away). Appointments will be between 9am and 3pm on June 9th. Patients will be served by Aspen Dental Team Members who will be volunteering their time and skills to help area veterans.

About the Healthy Mouth Movement: The Healthy Mouth Movement is a community giving initiative launched by Aspen Dental in 2014 to deliver free dental care and oral health education to people in need across the United States. Since then, nearly 10,000 Aspen Dental Health members have volunteered their time and talents to deliver more than 10 million dollars in free dental care to more than 17,000 patients in need. For more information log onto – [www.healthymouthmovement.com](http://www.healthymouthmovement.com)

.Again, this is a perfect opportunity for as many as 5000 veterans to receive free dental care on June 9th. This is a very generous gesture on the part of Aspen Dental in their effort to thank area veterans for their service to our country. Why not take advantage of this opportunity to be seen and treated by dental professionals who will be happy and proud to offer this care to our deserving veterans.



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# The Wine Guy

## *Sancerre*

As this is being printed, it's dry and sunny 75 degrees in and around the ancient village of Sancerre, located in the eastern part of the Loire Valley, one of France's most beautiful areas.

When I said, "ancient", I wasn't kidding; the area that comprises the town - essentially a ten square-mile oval that stands about 1200 feet above sea level - has been populated since the Neanderthal period. Wine cultivation is thought to have begun with the invading Romans about 3,000 years ago and even then, the wines of this town were in high demand and well-known; the historian Pliny commented on the, "satisfying flavors of this Gallic delicacy".

Fortunately for us, things are al-

ways evolving in the world of wine and especially in this area. Known for thousands of years for its spectacular, flinty Sauvignon Blancs, growing and cultivation progress has recently given us the Sancerre Red, from Pinot Noir grapes. Once thin and often as herbaceous as the whites, recent offerings bring notes of black cherry and spice, creating a new generation of full-bodied, age-worthy wines. These aren't just limited to productions from top domaines like Vachero. Smaller estates like Pierre Morin are also part of the action.

**Pierre Morin 2015, Sancerre, (\$24.00).** This is a ripe smooth wine. With its generous tannins and concentrated black-plum fruits, it is rich and full. The wine still has plenty of youthful acidity and fruitiness and needs time to fully develop. Drink from 2019.

Domaine Sautereau, 2016, Côte de Reigny (Sancerre); \$23, 89 points. Some barrel aging has given this wine, with its already ripe fruits, extra richness. It is spicy, lifted by juicy acidity from the black cherries and plums. This is a full, warm and ripe wine that is just now ready to drink.

Can't forget the whites, though...

**Daniel Chotard 2015 Les Cris (Sancerre), (\$39.00)** This is a limited production wine from small



parcels of limestone soil. Aged in acacia barrels, it has subtle spice and toast flavors. They wood aging had the effect of broadening the wine and giving it extra richness. It's an herbaceous and impressive wine, ready to drink right now.

**Henri Bourgeois, d'Antan Terroir de Silex, (Sancerre), (\$59.99).**

The wine's name means Sancerre from the old days or made in a traditional way. Certainly, if that way was to make a superb rich wine with great fruit, then this succeeds. It comes from flint soil and that's

discernible in the steely edge that gives a contrast to the ripe fruit. Drink this still-young wine, with its wood-aging flavors from 2019.

**Michel Vattan 2015 Les L-O (Sancerre), (\$33.99).** From a number of old-vine parcels, designated in the past as L-O and only produced in the best years, this wine is beautifully ripe with great layers of rich apple and pear fruits. They are cut with zesty acidity and a more mineral aspect. The wine still needs to age further, so drink from 2019.



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154 West Eighth St UNIT 13-S Condo	\$1,088,875	3/30/18	6	3	1433
9 Atlantic Street Single Family	\$902,000	3/30/18	8	2.5	1980
126 Tudor St UNIT H Condo	\$550,000	3/26/18	4	1	846
161 O St UNIT 1 Condo	\$530,000	3/29/18	4	1	819
193 West Fifth St UNIT 3 Condo	\$525,000	3/30/18	4	1	625
506 East Eighth St UNIT 1 Condo	\$510,000	3/29/18	5	1	918
754 East Fourth St UNIT 1 Condo	\$507,500	3/30/18	3	1	731
12 Loring St UNIT 2 Condo	\$500,000	3/29/18	4	1	549
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# Gate of Heaven and St. Brigid Parishes News

## *Honoring Mother's Day*

**O**n Sunday, May 13, 2018 at the 9AM Mass at Gate of Heaven Church, some of the second-grade

children, who made their First Holy Communion on Saturday, May 5, 2018 at Gate of Heaven Church, also took part in this Mass. Monsignor Liam Bergin was the celebrant at this Mass, which was followed by the May Procession and the Crowning of our Blessed Mother, Mary, with a beautiful crown of flowers, placed by one of the second graders.

After the May Procession all were welcomed to go downstairs to the Gate of Heaven Hall for the 2nd Annual Mother's

Day Breakfast hosted by GOH ambassadors Mary McCarthy Collins, Mary Maiullari and Karen Evans, with the assistance of Rachael Higgins and Merry.

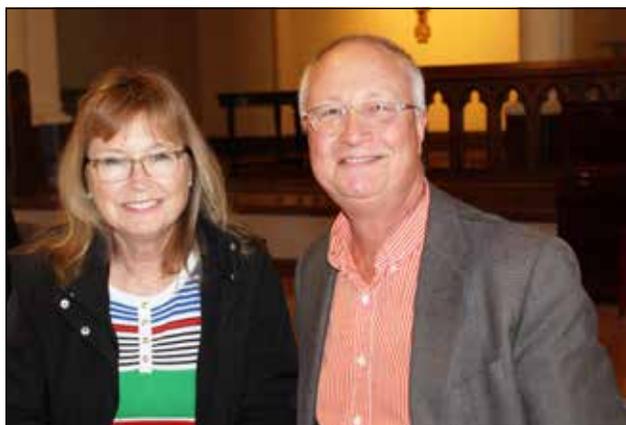
It was wonderful to see the many families and friends that came to this Special Mother's Day Celebration. All are welcome to join us on the 2nd Sunday of each month, following the 9AM Mass at Gate of Heaven Church, in the lower level adjacent to the chapel area of Gate of Heaven Hall for Coffee and Conversation.



# Happy Mother's Day



The Hostesses





# May is the Month of the Blessed Mother

*Join Us in Prayer of the Holy Rosary!*  
Tuesday Evenings at 6:30pm  
Gate of Heaven Church  
(lower level - entrance on I and East Fifth Street)

# Boston Water and Sewer Commission Ranks #1



The Boston Water and Sewer Commission (BWSC) was ranked highest in customer satisfaction in the Northeast by J.D. Power in their 2018 Water Utility Residential Customer Satisfaction Study released this week. BWSC tied its first-place ranking with Monroe County Water Authority in Rochester New York.

The study measures satisfaction among residential customers of 88 water utilities, delivering water to a population of at least 400,000 people and is reported in four geographic regions: Midwest, Northeast, South and West. Overall satisfaction is measured by examining attributes within six factors (listed in order of

importance): delivery; price; conservation; billing and payment; communications; and customer service.

"I'm proud that the Boston Water and Sewer Commission has received the first-place ranking in the J.D. Power 2018 Water Utility Residential Satisfaction Study," said Mayor Martin J. Walsh. "Our commission puts in countless hours ensuring that we are providing the best service to all of our residents across our community and I am excited that their hard work is being acknowledged."

"Our motto is 'Customer Service is our number one priority'," said Henry F. Vitale, executive director of BWSC. "It has been an exciting week at the Boston Water and Sewer

Commission; we are grateful for the acknowledgment of our customers. I am proud of our employees' dedication to the people who live, work, and visit the City of Boston."

The top ranking by J.D. Power marks the third honor this week for BWSC. On Tuesday, BWSC received honors from the MassDEP, winning the 2018 Public Water System Award for Outstanding Performance in 2017 for drinking water and the Systems Taking Action to Reduce Lead (STAR L) award, in collaboration with Boston Public Schools.

BWSC recently won the Water Cup at "New England's Best Drinking Water Taste Test" competition held by the New England Water Works Associa-

tion. In June, Boston will compete for the American Water Works Association's "Best of the Best" annual drinking water competition.

*Boston is home to New England's oldest and largest water, sewer and stormwater systems, which are owned, maintained and operated by the Boston Water and Sewer Commission (BWSC). Established in 1977, BWSC provides potable water and sewer services to more than one million people per day. BWSC is also the leading organizer of We Are All Connected, a campaign to raise public awareness about the importance of protecting and preserving Boston's waterways. For more information please visit: www.bwsc.org.*

## HORIZONS FOR HOMELESS CHILDREN SEEKS VOLUNTEERS & TOYS

### Upcoming Training Opportunities & Donation Needs



**HORIZONS  
FOR HOMELESS  
CHILDREN®**

Horizons for Homeless Children has a critical need for trained volunteers, called Playspace Activity Leaders (PALs), to play with homeless children who reside in shelters in the Greater Boston area. Horizons will be hosting their final PAL trainings till the Fall on May 19th and June 20th in Roxbury. Individuals who are interested in signing up can do so online.

Each Playspace has two-hour volunteer shifts that occur throughout the week. For children living in a shelter, Playspace visits with PALs may be the only opportunity to listen to stories being read, create an artistic masterpiece, dress up as a superhero, play a musical instrument, and just have fun. New toy donations support

their efforts to make homeless shelters more child friendly. You can donate via their Amazon Wish list at <http://horizonschildren.org/our-wish-list/>.

"Our Playspace Program helps make sure that children can experience the joys of childhood, no matter where they live," said Kate Barrand, President & CEO of Horizons for Homeless Children. "Critical developmental milestones happen at such a young age, and volunteers like those in the Boston area help ensure children living in shelters are given the opportunity to learn, play, and thrive. They are an incredible corps of people that help make this program possible for us and our shelter partners."

Horizons for Homeless Children created the Playspace Program with the belief that play is essential to healthy childhood development, and every child has the right to play. To make healthy play possible for children living in shelters in Massachusetts, regional staff build and maintain developmentally-appropriate and trauma-informed, "kid-friendly" spaces and stock them with books, toys, games, and arts materials. Horizons' Playspaces serve infants and young children who are living in

homeless shelters. PALs lead play activities in the Playspaces to help each child heal from the trauma of homelessness and gain the cognitive, physical, and social/emotional skills essential to future social and academic success.

To learn more about the Horizons' Playspace Program, or to sign up for either of this or other trainings, please visit [www.horizonschildren.org/playspace](http://www.horizonschildren.org/playspace) or contact Lynne Gaines Playspace Program Assistant Director, Greater Boston at [lgaines@horizonschildren.org](mailto:lgaines@horizonschildren.org).

#### **About Horizons for Homeless Children**

Horizons for Homeless Children is a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the lives of young homeless children and their families. Horizons provides high quality early education, comprehensive family support services, opportunities for play, and statewide advocacy work. Today, Horizons serves more than 1,600 young homeless children each week in Massachusetts through three early education centers and more than 90 shelter-based Playspaces. For more information about Horizons for Homeless Children, please visit: [www.horizonschildren.org](http://www.horizonschildren.org).



## Where to Use and Not Use Your Barbecue Grill

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY - By Staff

Everyone knows that we are well into spring and will soon be deep into the summer season and the usual summertime activities are going strong. One of the greatest pleasures in the warm months is of course the fine art of grilling or barbecuing. South Boston Today has received several inquiries by residents about what the rules are within the city limits as far as where

grills are legally allowed to be used and where they are prohibited. In response, we did some checking and with the help of some neighbors, a post by Mr. Roy E. Rider and city officials we obtained the info some of you have been curious about. No one here at SBT is trying to tell you where or how to use your grill; that's not for us to decide, but here are the restrictions you should be aware of. And the reason for concern is that there have been incidents of grills causing fires over the years here in the neighborhood. We live in the city and the houses are close together. An out of control grill fire could cause not only a tragedy to the people using the grills but to surrounding homes as well.

(The following does not apply to the use and storage of Natural Gas grills permitted through ISD and installed by a licensed installer in



accordance with proper codes and standards but does apply to the standard type charcoal and LP (propane) grills commonly used.)

**Charcoal Grills:** These are not allowed to be used on top of or within a building or a structure per order of the Boston Fire Dept.

**LP (propane) Grills:** City of Boston regulations prohibits the use and storage of the propane tanks or containers inside or on balconies above the first floor of any building or structure

used for habitation. Also, on first floor porches, decks or balconies enclosed by a roof/ceiling or other confining materials and never on fire escapes or fire escape balconies.

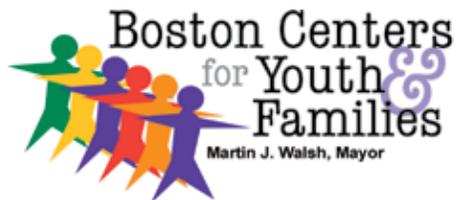
Boston Fire Department officials urge all to keep grills clean for safety reasons.

Well readers, these are the rules put forth by the city that some of you have been asking about. Do with this information what you wish but please, by all means, this spring and summer when using your grills; do so carefully for your own personal safety, the safety of your family and guests and for your surrounding neighbors as well.

(To view, in detail the rules and regulations and for safety tips to consider when barbecuing, you can log onto the Boston Fire Department web page at [www.cityofboston/fire](http://www.cityofboston/fire) and go to the link titled 'Barbecue Safety Info'.)

# BCYF Tynan Community Center

## Summer Camp



South Boston Summer Collaborative Presents the “Fun In The Sun” Summer Camp @ the BCYF Tynan Community Center. Registration will take place this Tuesday, May 22nd starting at 5pm. Please bring your child’s Birth Cer-

tificate, Current Physical & Immunization records and a \$100 Money Order to save a seat with the remaining balance of \$250.00 (sliding scale) due at Orientation.

The Program runs from July 9th thru August 24th Monday –Friday, 9am-3pm. The BCYF Tynan offers an on-site program, which includes a variety of activities, such as organized sports, Recreational room, arts & crafts, educational events, swimming and field trips. Any questions please feel free to call the Administrative Coordinator, John Lydon @ 617 635-5110



The BCYF Tynan Girl’s Group, along with Kathy and Katie were given a wonderful opportunity to see “The Sound of Music” at the Boch/Wang Center Theatre. We are lucky and grateful for the Community Partnership of the Boch Center and are looking forward to the next show.

### Gambling continued from front page

betting products,” said Jason Robins, chief executive of DraftKings, in a statement. “This ruling gives us the ability to further diversify our product offerings and build on our unique capacity to drive fan engagement.”

The ruling does not legalize sports betting but allows states to do so. Wynn Resorts has said it supports sports betting. The Legislature has shown an appetite for gambling -- and gaming revenues -- dating back to the establishment of the lottery and the more recent introduction of casinos to Massachusetts. Open questions include how Beacon Hill will choose to regulate and tax sports betting, which state agencies will oversee it, and which entities -- casinos, the lottery and web-based companies -- will be allowed to engage in it.

The U.S. Supreme Court ruling in favor of New Jersey on Monday effectively killed the Professional and Amateur Sports Protection Act (PASPA), the federal law that essentially limited sports betting to one state for the last 25 years. PASPA was declared unconstitutional in the 6-3 decision, meaning it will be up to states -- including New Jersey, which has sought to establish sports gambling for years

-- to decide whether to allow its residents to bet on sports.

PASPA was signed into law by President George H.W. Bush in 1992 and went into effect in January 1993. Nevada -- the only state at the time the bill became law that had widespread state-sponsored sports bettors -- and three other states with more limited betting (Oregon, Delaware and Montana) were grandfathered in. PASPA didn’t outlaw sports betting because that was already illegal. Rather, PASPA banned states -- outside those given exemptions -- from regulating (and taxing) sports betting. Despite PASPA’s existence, the American Gaming Association (AGA) estimates at least \$150 billion a year is gambled on sports in the U.S. and 97% of that amount was bet illegally.

With the power to legalize sports betting handed to the states, it’s now a race to see who can capitalize most on the fact that a whole lot of people like to bet on sports. Professional leagues will use the interest in gambling as a hook to promote their product, while also taking their slice of the pie to boost revenues. Some forward-thinking leagues like the NBA will be in position to capitalize on it. For a niche sport like horse racing, the opportunity to host a sports

book is a potential game-changer that could bring people back to the track in large numbers.

Here is the status of the New England States and New York at this point in time:

#### Massachusetts

There is an active bill that, with Monday’s ruling, would create a “special commission to conduct a comprehensive study and offer proposed legislation relative to the regulation of on-line sports betting.”

#### Connecticut

Gov. Dannel Malloy issued a statement that said he is prepared to call the General Assembly into a special session to consider legalizing sports betting in the state.

“It is incumbent on us to consider the question of legalized sports betting in a thoughtful way that ensures our approach is responsible, smart, and fully realizes the economic potential that this opportunity provides,” he said in the statement.

#### New Hampshire

Gov. Chris Sununu said in a statement: “Legalized sports betting in New Hampshire? I’ll give it 3-1.”

#### Maine

Has not recently considered any sports gambling legislation, and a spokesperson for Gov. Paul LePage’s office did not immediately

reply to a request for comment.

#### Rhode Island

Active bill would allow sports betting to be operated by the state lottery at existing casinos in the state, but it would prohibit betting on any collegiate sports event in the state or any college sports event outside the state involving any “state college team.”

#### Vermont

The state has not recently considered any sports gambling legislation, and a spokesperson for Gov. Phil Scott’s office did not immediately reply to a request for comment.

#### New York

State lawmakers and Gov. Andrew Cuomo approved language in 2013 approved language that would allow wagering on athletic events if the federal ban on sports wagering was struck down. But Cuomo said Monday he’s in no rush to move forward and suggested a new law would have to be passed, questioning whether it can be done this year before lawmakers end their annual session next month. “We’ll do an economic analysis and a legal analysis, but nothing’s going to happen this year because there’s literally just a number of days left in the legislative session and this would be a very big issue to tackle,” Cuomo told reporters in Manhattan.



This week, Danny was joined by Ring of Honor Wrestling's Matt Taven

**DANNY PICARD:** You were supposed to be in the World Title match at “War of the Worlds” in Lowell on Wednesday night. It was a homecoming of sorts for you. Your family and friends were in attendance. You were supposed to be facing the Ring of Honor World Champion Dalton Castle. You go into the event, and that match never happens. Instead, you won the six-man Tag Team titles. So tell me what happened?

**MATT TAVEN:** It was just a crazy kind of whirlwind. And I’ve been hyping up this match for so long. I’ve been with the company for five years. I’ve only had two World Title matches in those five years. Both of those matches ended with interference. And I’ve really been preaching about this “Kingdom Conspiracy” thing. But in my mind, I feel that it’s completely true. You just look at how many wins that I have under my belt, the accomplishments that I have in Ring of Honor alone, I’ve held every single title in that company. This Kingdom Conspiracy was finally going to come to a head in Lowell, where I would finally get my World Title shot that I de-

served for so long, in front of my friends and family, in front of the hometown crowd, and I show up that day, and Dalton Castle can’t wrestle because of a back injury. And it just kind of takes the wind out of your sails. I’m Jonesed up, my 89-year-old grandfather is sitting front row, and then boom, that gets dropped on me. And it’s like, “What am I going to do now?” Sometimes you’ve got to make chicken salad out of chicken crap.

**DP:** So Dalton Castle gets injured. You can’t have that match. And you found out when?

**MT:** I literally found out when I got to the arena. I’m not sure when Ring of Honor really found out, but I’m walking in, pulling my bags in, thinking that I’m mentally prepared for a World Title match. And then I start to get dressed and wait to find out when I’m going to be on, and then someone tells me it’s not happening. Just like that, boom. And it’s not like you can say, “Well it has to happen.” Because injuries happen, I’ve been on the shelf with injuries before and I know what that’s like. To be honest, I fought through a lot of injuries and

wrestled through them anyway. To me, it’s just more proof that there is a conspiracy against me in Ring of Honor. I’ve wrestled with broken ribs. I came back early from knee surgery to be in the six-man Tag tournament, and I honestly think I came back too early. But, ya know, Dalton pinches a nerve and they let him sit out this entire [War of the Worlds] tour.

**DP:** So it is a real injury he’s dealing with. This isn’t a storyline.

This wasn’t planned that they were going to yank him from this title match at the last minute and then give you the six-man Tag Team titles. This was a real-life injury.

**MT:** Ya, this is a real injury. Because if it was just all part of the show, I probably wouldn’t have my 89-year-old grandfather — who’s not in the best health and not the most mobile guy — I wouldn’t have dragged him out of the house and made him stay up all night to come watch me. It’s one of those things where you kind of just have to roll with the punches. Wrestling is physical, and it takes so much out of you. You get used to almost being an injured person and walking around protecting these injuries

that you have. But every once in a while they catch up with people, and unfortunately, it caught up with Dalton the day before my World Title match.

**DP:** Is the WWE your end game?

**MT:** I grew up as a six-year-old Ultimate Warrior, tying the shoelaces around my biceps, running around the house like a crazy guy and a WWE fanatic. So, I’d be lying to you to say that I don’t want to go to the WWE or anything like that because it was my dream as a kid. But as you get older, obviously those things shift and change. And now I’m looking at it as like, man, I could be part of the revolution. I could be part of the big change. Ring of Honor is on the up and it’s been on the up since I’ve been there. I’ve been kind of like a foundation piece to this company that has the snowball rolling downhill and picking up steam and could be a major competitor for WWE. And that’s a good option too.

*Listen to the entire conversation at dannypicard.com. Also available on iTunes, Tunein, Google Play, iHeartRadio, and Spotify. Subscribe to his YouTube channel at youtube.com/dannypicard.*

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## BPDA Launches a Web-Based 3D Smart Model for Public Use

The Boston Planning & Development Agency (BPDA) launched a web-based three dimensional (3D) base model of the City of Boston, available for public use for free on the agency's website, [bostonplans.org](http://bostonplans.org). The 3D geographic information system (GIS) model supports the BPDA's goals to implement new solutions to solve complex challenges facing Boston, while providing greater transparency and increased community engagement.

"By providing a sophisticated planning tool like our 3D smart model to the public free of charge, we are creating a new resource to improve the efficiency and quality of our work, empowering residents with a real-world visualization tool to imagine the future of our neighborhoods, and leveling the playing field for all who are invested in planning Boston's urban context," said Brian Golden, Director of the BPDA. "The BPDA will continue to improve our tools and processes to increase transparency, and better engage the community in the work that we do to create a more prosperous, resilient, and vibrant city for all."

Boston is considered one of the first in the nation to launch a current realistic ArcGIS 3D smart model that integrates conventional GIS 2D data. The model builds on Mayor Martin J. Walsh's commitment to ensuring city data is open and accessible to the public, and has begun to integrate data from the City of Boston's Assessing Department, the BPDA's Article 80 process and results from Climate Ready Boston.

In addition to being available for public use, the 3D smart model provides BPDA staff with tools that will create real-world visualizations for planning Boston's urban context. The model will be used to support planning initiatives and strategic planning areas; review development proposals; and conduct in-house urban design studies, shadow analysis and zoning development capacity modeling. It will also serve as a tool to better understand the impacts of climate change and sea level rise on Boston's built environment.

The model includes a visibility assessment tool that will allow planners to determine what portion of a proposed development



**boston planning & development agency**

can be seen from a certain location or viewpoint, and a daylight tool to quickly access shadows that will be created by a proposed development.

"The City of Boston makes much of their geographic data open for public consumption as open data, and BPDA takes full advantage of this in their evaluations," said Matt Ball, writing about the 3D model for the Esri Blog. "These data include such information as parcel ownership, zoning districts, historic landmarks, and open space. Analytical data products include such information as the extent of different levels of sea-level rise, an important consideration for all coastal cities."

The BPDA's 3D smart model has been in development for several years in collaboration with Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI), Paul Cote from pbcGIS, and BPDA staff. Within the past few years, the 3D GIS software and hardware improve-

ments have allowed for the publication and display on desktops, smartphones and other mobile devices. The use of Esri ArcGIS Pro, ArcGIS Online, City Engine and SketchUp as the enabling software programs allows content to be published to the web.

### ***About the Boston Planning & Development Agency***

As the City of Boston's urban planning and economic development agency, the BPDA works in partnership with the community to plan Boston's future while respecting its past. The agency's passionate and knowledgeable staff guides physical, social, and economic change in Boston's neighborhoods and its downtown to shape a more prosperous, resilient, and vibrant city for all. The BPDA also prepares residents for new opportunities through employment training, human services and job creation. Learn more at [www.bostonplans.org](http://www.bostonplans.org), and follow us on Twitter @BostonPlans.