



## Residents Seek Answers Tonight From Baker, Walsh Officials

Since the fatal July 25 accident, residents have questioned why more hasn't been done to prevent speeding on South Boston streets by commuters cutting through the neighborhood to get downtown. Last week, on its front page, South Boston Today (SBT) pointed out that the South Boston Waterfront Sustainable Transportation Plan (SBWSTP), published in January 2015, contained short term recommendations that would have addressed many of the concerns that residents have. These recommenda-

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# EDITORIAL

## Speaking Bluntly About Stopping Accidents On Our Streets

The accident on L Street that took the life of a beautiful child and critically injured another was just that - an accident. There are no reports it was caused by speed or impaired driving. It's a tragedy that will hopefully never be repeated, but the odds of that are not too good and we probably all know it.

Adding updated speed limited lights, stop signs and barriers are all good steps, but if we are going to see a future with less traffic accidents on the 'thru ways' of South Boston, there needs to be an attitude change as far as driving

habits go on the part of local residents and certainly by out of town commuters.

To the locals: Whether you are long timers or newcomers this is your town. Those who reside here are our neighbors and we need to look out for them. Though most locals have a healthy and legitimate respect for traffic rules, there are a few who will blow through a stop sign or a red light, if they think there are no cops watching. Please, no more. And start using those turn signals (AKA Blinks).

The out of town commuters are for the most part

good and safe drivers, when coming and going during the rush hours. But some of them are as reckless and disrespectful as they can be and could not seem to care that using our streets as their personal speedways is dangerous. They run late for work. So, what. If they can't drive under control and in a safe manner, they should take an alternate route that does not take them through our town.

Commuters caught speeding through our streets, as well as locals who do the same should be hit with heavy fines and loss of license. And enforcement is a key. If public officials are not



willing to go that extra mile and hit hard with those tougher penalties, perhaps they are not as serious as they want us to believe about prevent-

ing future accidents. All the new lights, signs and barriers won't be enough to ensure there will not be another child killed in the not too distant future.

*"Never waste time dwelling upon those things you have no power to control and no ability to do over" – Eric Fowler*

## Letter to the Editor

Friends and neighbors,

Every year too many kids go to school without the materials necessary to succeed. This summer I am organizing the 2nd annual kids helping kids school supply drive to help other kids in our community to have what they need for class this fall. Please help by donating new back packs, pencils, pens, eras-

ers, notebooks, folders, and other school supplies.

We will be collecting supplies Monday August 20th from 4 pm - 7 pm the Pop Warner field at Marine Park, 1880 Day Boulevard. If you'd like to skip the store and leave the shopping to us, you can donate using gofundme!

Thank you,  
Ronan Manning



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# The Information Center



## Priorities Out Of Whack?

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY  
John Ciccone

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

Last week's headlines screamed '62 Shot in Chicago Gun Violence'. But give or take a few victims and this could have been the headline for many weekends in that city. It's out of control and the rest of the country knows it. And as one retired Chicago police officer said when asked by a news crew "If they counted the stabbings and attacks with other weapons, the number of assaults can easily jump to 3 times that number in Chicago on any given weekend".

Welcome to Chicago, a 'Sanctuary City', where criminal illegal aliens; including deadly members of gangs like MS-13 are given protection from ICE agents trying to do their jobs and the law-abiding citizens are the only residents, who don't carry a gun because an unconstitutional city law, which will be gone soon, won't allow them to.

One Radio talk show pundit gave a tongue and cheek response to the 62 shootings story by saying "Now see? If only Chicago had gun control, there would be no gun crime – oh wait. ..." His point of course being that Chicago does have gun control laws – the strictest; where the good guys are considered bad guys by city officials, if they even express an interest in applying for a firearms-carry permit to protect themselves and their families from the carnage taking place on their streets. The thugs, the gang members and every other sort of human predator are walking around armed to the teeth, but those citizens who obey the law are denied the means to defend against it.

This is the world that so many big cities, run by liberal or 'progressive' mayors has become. They will tax people back to the stone age, chip away at individual rights of those there legally all the while being unable to stop the

blood baths on their streets and giving safe havens to those responsible. A total contradiction and absence of common sense is taking place in some American cities and people who are able to flee are getting out as fast as they can.

As the now commonly used saying states "If you put liberals in charge of the Mohave Desert, it would run out of sand in a month." In other words, in so many of the major metro areas where hard line libs are calling all the shots, the places are becoming crime infested jungles, where residents are suffocating from never ending tax hikes and yet, still drowning in debt, and the answers they keep coming up with to solve these problems are to keep doing more of the same. Their priorities are so out of whack it's almost comical – unless you are unfortunate enough to have to live in one of those places.

How about this for an out of whack priority? The City of Santa Barbara, like so many California cities, is overrun with hard drug users, so finding the streets littered with hypodermic needles is common and it's not uncommon to find a body lying dead in a gutter. Yes, it's become that bad in Leftist California. But rather than increase and seek new meaningful efforts to try to solve this problem, the plan by officials is not to stem the tide of dangerous drugs flowing over the border, create real treatment programs that actually work and impose serious hard-core penalties to those dealers spreading their poison. No, they pass out clean needles. And yet, officials there have now proposed laws that would give jail time if you are caught passing out plastic straws at ice cream and coffee shops because plastic straws are bad for the environment.

So – The city will pass out hypodermic needles to make it easier to

shoot drugs, but you go to jail if you pass out plastic straws to sip on a milk shake. Once again, priorities are out of whack in the land of liberal run cities as being reality challenged is becoming a full-blown epidemic.

To close, I want to confirm by writing this week's column, that the rumors of my demise were greatly exaggerated. Rumors get out of control, I know the intentions were good and I want to thank so many of you that called, emailed, tweeted, Facebooked and actually came

looking for me to see for themselves that I'm still around. It was overwhelming and I'm sincerely humbled. It was an accident; no need to mention what kind and I'll probably be going through PT for a while. But I'm still here. But again, I thank you all for your concern and offers of help. It's heartwarming to a person when he or she learns how many friends and well wishers they have and I'm certainly no exception. My heart has been warmed even more than the August sun has warmed the sands along the beach.

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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 tax collections off to fast fiscal-year start in July**

More good news on the fiscal front. From SHNS's Colin Young at the Lowell Sun: "On the heels of a tax windfall in fiscal 2018 that left Massachusetts with a surplus, fiscal year 2019 got off to a solid start for state tax collections in July. The Department of Revenue said tax collections of \$1.899 billion last month were up \$102 million or 5.7 percent over July 2017 and came in \$7 million above the monthly benchmark."

### **Union may pursue ballot question to repeal Sunday-holiday pay provisions in 'grand bargain' bill**

For your post-November

election planning. From Greg Ryan at the BBJ: "One of the state's largest labor unions plans to push for legislation — and possibly a ballot initiative — that would restore time-and-a-half pay for retail workers on Sundays and holidays, a perk that is set to be phased out in Massachusetts under the recent 'grand bargain' law. ... The United Food and Commercial Workers union, a member of the Raise Up coalition, was opposed to the grand bargain because of its elimination of premium time-and-a-half pay."

### **How Dems can beat Baker by emphasizing true reforms**

Liam Kerr, Massachusetts director of Democrats for Education Reform, has some

advice for the state's two Democratic candidates for governor, Jay Gonzalez and Bob Massie: Run on reforms, such as those implemented by former Democratic Gov. Deval Patrick, and bring up as often as possible the State Police scandals, cushy police construction-site details and law-enforcement union endorsements of Gov. Charlie Baker.

### **Margaret Heckler, RIP**

She was one of the original glass-ceiling breakers. From the Globe's Brian MacQuarrie and Travis Andersen: "Margaret M. Heckler, a former Republican diplomat, secretary of US Health and Human Services, and eight-term Massachusetts congresswoman who advocated for women's issues for decades, died Monday at a hospital in Arlington, Va. She was 87. 'She was an inspiration to all who knew her,' a family statement said of the daughter of Irish immigrants who eventually became ambassador to that country."

From the Washington Post: "Throughout much of her career, Ms. Heckler was a groundbreaking figure who often forged her way in law and politics as one of the few women in the male-dominated fields. In 1966, she unseated a former speaker of the House to win the Republican nomination for her district in suburban Boston. She was the first woman elected to Congress in her own right from Massachusetts and, when she took office in 1967, was one of only 11 women in the U.S. House of Representatives."

Of course, many of us fondly recall the tale of Heckler downing the remainder of President Reagan's mug of beer during his visit to Dorchester's Eire

Pub in 1983. It was indeed an "impressive" performance, as was her entire career.

### **Back to the future: Boston's return to 'intensely segregated' schools**

For both education and political reasons, this is a big story. The Globe's James Vaznis reports on how 60 percent of Boston's schools now meet the definition of being "intensely segregated," up from 42 percent two decades ago, largely due to allowing "more students to attend schools in their neighborhoods as they did prior to court-ordered busing."

We'd be curious to see how today's school and academic numbers fare against those in the pre-court-ordered busing era more than four decades ago, not just two decades. They might tell us how much busing has, or hasn't, changed things.

### **Meet the new boss: William Gross**

Speaking of the city's racial history, Boston's newest police commissioner -- and the first-ever African-American commissioner -- will be sworn in today and Quincy Walters of WBUR reports that those who know him best say William Gross is perfect for the job, given his 33-year career of building bridges between the department and residents.

The Globe's Milton Valencia profiles the 54-year-old Gross, tracing his career from his days walking a beat and his deep roots in the Mattapan neighborhood, where he'll be sworn into office today.

### **With the legislative session out of the way, Baker revs up his re-election engine**

The Globe's Matt Stout reports that Republican Gov. Charlie Baker, now that the legislative session is over, is starting to focus more on his re-election campaign, bulking up on staff, reserving multimillion-dollar ad campaigns and landing more than a little financial help from a Republican-backed super PAC.

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# Flynn Recommends 12 Point Safe Streets Plan



The entire South Boston community continues to mourn the loss of a beautiful, young boy in our neighborhood, Colin McGrath, due to a tragic crash recently at L & 6th St. I can't imagine the loss that the McGrath family is experiencing. Our town remains heartbroken and we keep them in our thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

In order to show respect and allow our focus to remain with the family, I refrained from discussing this topic during the period of mourning and until the funeral had passed.

South Boston has certainly changed over the years, but one thing that will always remain is the spirit and kindness of its people. That much is evident by the outpouring of support for the McGrath family, the blue ribbons all over town, the volunteers at Gate of Heaven Church, the donations made by our local businesses and those made to South Boston Catholic Academy in memory of Colin McGrath. In times of crisis, we stick by our friends and neighbors. We are compassionate people.

To those of you who contacted my office about pedestrian safety issues that are prevalent throughout South Boston, thank you for your passion, advocacy and feedback. I spoke with many residents on the phone and via email, along L St and at the Monsignor Powers building, and

at neighborhood office hours at the South Boston Library. Your comments and advice have been helpful in reinforcing my thoughts and shaping new ideas.

It doesn't matter if you have been here 50 years or 5 months; if you're a senior, disabled, a parent, or a child- we all know that our roads are unsafe.

We've all witnessed speeding cars on our streets, fire trucks not being able to get to calls, due to double-parked cars, blocked intersections by cars not properly parked; causing pedestrians to weave through vehicles to cross the street. Many times, I've had to dodge vehicles while crossing the street in South Boston. I've had too many conversations with friends about near misses and crashes. My elderly parents often walk around town with my special needs nephew. Hardly a day goes by that they don't tell me about a car that has blown by them in the crosswalk. My kids, Caroline and Stephen, tell me the same thing coming from the street hockey courts or the South Boston Library.

In June, I met with neighbors following a crash at Farragut Road and Broadway to talk about pedestrian safety. We discussed these very same issues and helpful traffic calming policies. I also met with Boston Transportation officials about that crash and offered recommendations.

Cars continue to speed through our streets, block our intersections and create difficulty for pedestrians to gain access to crosswalks. We have double-parked cars and delivery trucks on West Broadway, adding congestion and treacherous routes for pedestrians, other cars and buses. We see vehicles driving the wrong way on one-way streets. Ride-sharing companies can be unfamiliar with our roads, some inconsiderately stopping right in the middle of busy streets. We have distracted drivers texting and distracted pedestrians buried in their phones.

In order to fix the problems at hand we need to recognize and acknowl-

edge them. Drivers and pedestrians alike must always show common courtesy, respect, awareness and concern for each other. We all can be better. And I respectfully ask all of us to take it upon ourselves to make our streets safer.

To improve pedestrian safety in South Boston, we all need to work together to slow down traffic and increase our awareness of others on the road. It will take all of us as a community to implement traffic calming policies to help try and realize Vision Zero. It will take the work of engineers at our transportation departments, along with public works, to apply physical changes to make our roads safer. It will take consistent enforcement by the Boston Police and the MA State Police. It will also take drivers and pedestrians to be respectful and aware of everyone on our roads.

I provided suggestions to transportation and city officials regarding a number of traffic calming measures to be implemented at high-traffic locations throughout South Boston. I have described these measures below. In addition, I've included others from concerned residents. Moreover, I would like to see the speed limit reduced to 20 MPH in South Boston. 25 MPH is simply too fast for our streets.

I hope these suggestions have merit as we all look to do our part to prevent serious crashes in the future. I realize some may not agree with these, but please know I offer these recommendations with public safety and Vision Zero in mind.

The South Boston elected officials have been in constant contact with Mayor Walsh on this issue. I will continue to work with the Mayor, our city and state departments, Councilor Flaherty, Congressman Lynch, Senator Collins and Clerk Donovan on this critical issue. I welcome your thoughts on what we can do to make our streets safer. Please call my office at 617-635-3203 or email ed.flynn@boston.gov.

Thank you,  
Ed

Please note the City of Boston and your elected officials will hold a meeting to address long-held pedestrian safety concerns at the Tynan School Thursday, August 9th at 6pm.

## 12 Point Plan

From conversations with residents, I am respectfully recommending establishing a comprehensive program to make our streets safer, including the following South Boston Safe Streets 12 Point Plan:

1. A complete traffic study of South Boston and all high traffic roads.
2. Reducing the speed limit to 20 MPH throughout all of South Boston.
3. Speed humps (permanent or temporary to move for plows) and raised crosswalks along L St and other high traffic roads, near parks and recreation centers where children and seniors gather.
4. 4-way stop signs along L St and relevant locations throughout Southie.
5. Additional posting of Speed Board Signs on high traffic roads throughout South Boston for feedback to reduce speeds.
6. Blinking Pedestrian Crossing signs at high traffic areas like we have on Summer Street.
7. Bumping out our sidewalks at crosswalks on Farragut Road, school zones and elsewhere to shorten crosswalks, make stop signs more visible & narrow our streets to encourage slower speeds.
8. Road Diets on Day Blvd, one lane from G St to O St, and speed humps in appropriate locations.
9. Increased police patrols in order to reduce speed. Increased fines for driving the wrong way on a one-way street and trucks on Day Blvd or L St.
10. More delineators in high traffic areas reminding to stop for pedestrians; paint in the roads advising drivers to slow, yield and stop.
11. A Study to determine if our numbered streets would become safer if they became one-way streets. An examination of data from the winter of 2015.
12. Designated time and space for delivery trucks on East & West Broadway to eliminate double parking.

# David Biele: As Rep, I Will Hold State Agencies Accountable



In 2014, the Massachusetts Legislature authorized \$25 million to spend on transportation improvements in South Boston. For over a year, officials from the City of Boston, MassDOT, Massport, and the Massachusetts Convention Center Authority (MCCA) conducted over 50 meetings across our community to gain community input and develop a plan of action on how to address the transportation needs in our community.

The final recommendations, known as the South Boston Waterfront Sustainable Transportation Plan, identified the following needs on our local streets:

- Reduce congestion along South Boston streets; and
  - Install traffic calming measures to improve pedestrian safety and make those routes less desirable for cut through commuters.
- In order to address these concerns, the Plan recommended implementing the following short-

term fixes within three years:

- Conduct a roadway safety audit on Day Boulevard;
- New traffic signals at Day Boulevard, L Street, Columbia Road;
- Implement lane management, restriping, pedestrian, and signal improvements along L Street corridor; and
- Address safety at eight intersections in South Boston along Broadway, Dorchester Avenue, and Old Colony Avenue.

These recommendations were published in January 2015 to be implemented within three years. It is now three years later and many of these recommendations have not been implemented by our transportation agencies, despite having the money and plans to do so.

What is frustrating for so many is that these solutions are well known, relatively easy to implement, and there is money to spend on them. It is a fair question to ask why we have not seen these investments in our community to date.

As your next State Representative, I will use every tool at my disposal to hold the executive branch of government and its agencies accountable to the people of South Boston and Dorchester.

# Amtrak Expands Its Gift Card Program



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## Lynch Sends Letter to President Trump Regarding Ambassador Nominations

Congressman Stephen F. Lynch, Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on National Security, recently sent a letter to President Donald Trump urging him to nominate qualified ambassadors to U.S. diplomatic posts that are critical to U.S. counterterrorism and national security efforts in the Middle East, South Asia, Africa, Latin America, and other regions. According to the American Foreign Service

Association, nearly 40 key U.S. embassies are vacant due to a lack of nominations by President Trump.

"The absence of U.S. ambassadors at our diplomatic missions in Jordan, Turkey, Qatar, and Saudi Arabia poses a serious challenge to the effectiveness of our counterterrorism operations and diplomatic efforts in the Middle East," wrote Lynch. "This region is defined by a heightened state of conflict stemming from ongoing

civil wars in Syria and Yemen, the escalating use of guerilla tactics by the remaining pockets of the Islamic State, and other destabilizing events. It is also marked by the deployment of more than 2,000 U.S. troops in Syria and an estimated 6,000 troops still deployed in Iraq. National security demands the presence of permanent U.S. diplomatic leadership in the region."

The U.S. also lacks ambassadors

in Pakistan, where Al Qaeda and Islamic State affiliate activity remains an issue, and in Mexico, where bilateral cooperation on security, counter-narcotics, migration, and economic issues is critical. President Trump has also failed to nominate an ambassador to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), which coordinates global economic policy, combats the threat of terrorist financing and money laundering, and is critical to curbing illicit use of offshore tax havens – an issue particularly relevant to U.S. national security given recent revelations related to the "Panama Papers."

"In furtherance of U.S. national security and our efforts to safeguard deployed U.S. military and civilian personnel worldwide," continued Lynch, "it is imperative that you fulfill your constitutional duty and name qualified individuals to serve as U.S. ambassadors at these and other critical diplomatic posts with ambassadorial vacancies."

## Many Exciting Changes Ahead For Seaport Catholic Collaborative



The South Boston Seaport Catholic Collaborative (SBS Catholic), which includes St. Peter, St. Vincent de Paul, and St. Monica-St. Augustine parishes has many exciting and relevant changes

in store for August.

Tuesday, August 14th, from 5 pm to 7 pm, is the next Peace Picnic. This is held on the grounds of St. Monica-St. Augustine church. The Peace Picnic provides an oasis of calm where indi-

viduals and families, including those battered by stress can be renewed by the hospitality of our faith community and enjoy the company of many friendly faces.

On Saturday, August 18, St. Monica-St. Augustine parish will kick off a week-long celebration of the feast days of the saintly mother and son the parishes are named after. The first annual Feast of St. Monica-St. August will begin on the 18th with a yard sale on the grounds of St. Monica's, 10 am to 4 pm. Then on Saturday, August 25th, there will be a festival on the grounds of St. Monica's with food, music, games, and activities. The entire South Boston community is invited to these events.

Additionally, the SBS Catholic offices at 307 West Broadway will be

moving by the end of August to the lower church hall of St. Peter's, at 75 Flaherty Way. We apologize for any disruption this will cause but are excited by the opportunity this will afford our neighbors. We will maintain a presence at the church and even be able to open the doors during the day time like the olden days, when you could walk into a church and say a prayer.

The St. Peter-St. Vincent de Paul communities worship at St. Peter's parish every Saturday at 5 pm, and Sundays at 9 am and 11 am. The 11 am Mass is the Lithuanian liturgy. The St. Monica-St. Augustine communities worship every Sunday at 10:30 am and 12:30 pm. The 12:30 pm Mass is the Spanish liturgy. All are welcome at every one of these liturgies.

Window continued from page 4

Meanwhile, the two Democratic candidates for governor, Bob Massie and Jay Gonzalez, are sharpening their attacks on the governor, reports Jordan Graham at the Herald.

Baker does, of course, have

a primary challenger of his in the form of Scott Lively, but as Christian Wade reports in the Salem News, the state GOP has long been looking past Sept. 4. The party broke with its own tradition to back Baker in the primary and is now running a Facebook survey that

completely ignores Lively.

**And, yes, Baker really is a Republican ...**

Ed Lyons, a longtime Republican activist and a regular contributor to WBUR, writes at Commonwealth magazine that, sure, Republican

Gov. Charlie Baker has signed a lot of legislation pushed by Democrats. But they would have been far worse bills if Baker wasn't sitting in the corner office, Lyons writes, arguing Baker is indeed using a 'creative friction' strategy to protect GOP interests.

# The Wine Guy

## *The Hills Are Alive!*

No, not those hills, though the Austrian Alps are close to the country I want to mention today. With the weather the way it's been recently, I think we could all do a little more information on the very durable-and delicious- rieslings from Germany's hills of vineyards that line the valleys of the Rhine and Mosel rivers.

Dr. Hermann Dr. H. Riesling 2016, Mosel, (\$17.99) is a great place to start. Dr. Hermann wine estate is located in the town of Ürzig in the Mosel. The family has been involved in winemaking for several centuries. The wine estate as it is now was created in 1967 when Joh. Jos. Christoffel Erben's property was sub-divided.

Rudy Hermann took over the estate from his father in 1974 and his son Christian joined him as the winemaker in 2001. This wine is a light yellow-green color. On the nose, it offers notes of herbs and stone fruits. Sweet, fresh and fruity on the palate with a lively acidity. I think you'll find this one's ideal for spicy food, especially spicy Asian cuisine, although the light and fresh acidity is such that it can be enjoyed on its own.

Schloss Vollrads Riesling QbA 2015, Rheingau, Germany, (\$21.99) is a classic. This winemaker looks back on centuries of wine-making tradition. According to an ancient deed, the Knights of Greiffenclau sold their wines to the convent of St. Victor in Mainz as long ago as 1211. Today, Schloss Vollrads combines 800 years of its tradition with the latest in wine-making engineering, environmental awareness in cultivation, and meticulous care of the wines. Some 126 acres of vineyards are solely devoted to the Riesling grape. This Riesling is low in alcohol, with high acidity, steely minerality, and stone fruit, spice, citrus, and floral notes. At its ripest, it leans towards juicy peach and nectarine, and pineapple. You'll find this one to be pretty versatile, enjoying the company of sweet-fleshed fish like sole, most Asian food, especially Thai and Vietnamese (bottlings with



some residual sugar and low alcohol are the perfect companions for dishes with substantial spice), and freshly shucked oysters. Sweeter styles work well with fruit-based desserts.

Louis Guntrum Dry Riesling, 2017, (\$15.99 Louis Guntrum was established in 1648, and more than three-centuries later, Louis Konstantin Guntrum has elevated the wines to fresh new heights. With his commitment to artistry, tradition and excellence, he has a reputation for producing wines that represent the quality and vision of winemaking in Germany. This dry Riesling has a delicate fragrance of white peaches, apricot and juicy pears, with an impressive mouthfeel, and lasting flavors. Definitely pair this one with shellfish, lobster rolls or potstickers.

On a completely different note, I'd like to suggest a "Summer Cabernet"- one that has the body to go with grilled meats but is still light enough to accommodate the summer heat. Kaiken Estate Cabernet Sauvignon 2017, Maipo Valley, Chile, (\$15.99) fits the bill. Beef sliders with sautéed onions and horseradish mayo. Lollipop lamb chops charred on the grill. Summer tomato meat sauce over spaghetti. These are just a few things that come to mind as companions for the Kaiken Estate Cabernet Sauvignon. It's a great value that will pair beautifully with meaty hot weather grilled items, day in and day out.

Ready. Set. Pour!

**Talk to The Wine Guy at**  
[jdris8888@gmail.com](mailto:jdris8888@gmail.com)

## CHARLIE THOMAS' DRIFTERS AT CITY HALL PLAZA AUGUST 15

Timeless R&B classics return to City Hall Plaza with Charlie Thomas's Drifters at the Dorothy Curran Wednesday Night Concert Series on August 15 at 7 p.m. The series is presented by Mayor Martin J. Walsh, the Mayor's Office of Tourism, Sports, and Entertainment, the Boston Commission on Affairs of the Elderly, and the Boston Parks and Recreation Department in partnership with title sponsor Bank of America. Additional support is provided by Polar Beverages.

Charlie Thomas is a Dorothy Curran Concert Series favorite who earned his place in music history as a member of the Drifters, the group that placed 37 records on the Billboard national R&B charts. Twenty-five Drifters songs reached the Top

10, with five of those making it to #1. Thomas carries on the group's legacy by performing such Drifters classics as "Dance With Me," "This Magic Moment," "Some Kind of Wonderful," "Under The Boardwalk," and more.

The Dorothy Curran Wednesday Night Concert Series closes August 22 with the Trammps performing hits including "Hold Back The Night," "Where The Happy People Go," "Soul Bones," and their signature song "Disco Inferno" as featured on the soundtrack of "Saturday Night Fever."

For more information, please call (617) 635-4505 or visit the Parks Department online at [boston.gov/departments/parks-and-recreation](http://boston.gov/departments/parks-and-recreation) or [facebook.com/bostonparksdepartment](http://facebook.com/bostonparksdepartment).






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The Lawn On D will be transformed into a European-style market for the first ever D Street Market! Come enjoy a farmers market, a cut flower stand, a mini car show, and roving street performers: jugglers, face painters, magicians, and aerialists! Plus, delicious food, drinks, lawn games, and live music throughout the day.

Weekend Schedule

Friday, August 10<sup>th</sup>

10:00 AM TO 3:00 PM  
Boston Herald Radio Live Broadcast

6:45 PM TO TOURNAMENT END  
Citizens Bank Cornhole Tournament

8:00 PM TO 11:00 PM  
Movies at The Lawn: Empire Records

Saturday, August 11<sup>th</sup>

NOON TO 11:00 PM  
Signature Event Series: D Street Market

Sunday, August 12<sup>th</sup>

3:00 PM TO 6:00 PM  
Live Music with Closing Time

7:00 PM TO 9:00 PM  
DJ Dakeya

Enjoy delicious food and drinks, available for purchase noon to 11 pm on Friday & Saturday and noon to 10 pm on Sunday!

For a full schedule or to plan your event here, visit [LawnOnD.com](http://LawnOnD.com).

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MAYOR MARTIN J. WALSH'S

Movie Night

MONDAY, AUGUST 13

FEATURING

PETER RABBIT

Movie begins at Dusk (approximately 8pm)

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B

South Boston Traffic Safety Meeting

Thursday, August 9th, at 6 PM

Tynan Elementary School, 650 E 4th St.

Come speak with Public Safety and Transportation Officials as well as the elected officials about traffic safety improvements in South Boston.

Sponsored By:

Mayor Martin Walsh, Congressman Stephen Lynch, Senator Nick Collins, Clerk of Courts Michael Donovan, City Councilor Ed Flynn, and City Councilor Michael Flaherty



Questions/Concerns contact:  
John Allison, Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services  
617-635-2680 john.allison@boston.gov



By Kevin Devlin

**T**his past week I was sitting in my living room, watching TV, enjoying retirement, and beating the heat, as I reflected upon years now securely filed away in the book of my life.

I remembered:

- When I was a kid living on Maryland Street and then on Doris Street in Savin Hill. I loved cleaning the sidewalk and the gutters along the street in front of my house and my neighbor's homes. It was called PRIDE. Helping others.

# Thoughts of Yesteryear!

- The "ragman" coming down Maryland Street in his little wagon driven by a horse. He was dirtier than dirt but he made money collecting those old clothes because he always came back for more.

- The door-to-door salesman who'd come by every week to collect two bucks from my mom. Most of the time my mom would ask him to come back next week or we made believe we weren't home and wouldn't answer the door.

- That there weren't many vehicles on the city streets back in the late fifties so nobody had to worry about parking spaces. Times have changed indeed.

- My brother Pat and I had paper routes and delivered the Boston Herald. We delivered papers to homes on Sagamore, Auckland, Doris, Elton, Midland, Maryland, and Sydney Street as well as parts of Dorchester Avenue and Savin Hill Avenue. We usually had about fifty customers and the paper cost eight cents. We

always bought a few extra papers so we could sell them on the corner of Dorchester and Savin Hill Avenue(s) to people driving by the intersection or we would go into the local bars and sell them. We also shined shoes to make a buck.

- My four brothers, Pat, Jack, Buddy, and Jimmy, and how close we were.

- Watching Creature Double Feature on Saturdays. Now that was scary but fun. Loved "Godzilla."

- Going to the Strand Theatre located at Upham's Corner or the Park Street Theatre on Dorchester Avenue across from Town Field, with my cousin, Tommy O'Toole. Loved watching the Three Stooges in-between the double movie feature.

- As a freshman up at Southie High a slick upperclassman tried to sell me tickets for the fourth floor swimming pool. The building only has three floors.

- The fight on the MBTA bus between the two biggest kids up at Southie High. One kid was from Savin Hill,

the other from Southie. Both battled hard. Nobody won. Nobody lost.

- Working on Kneeland Street in the garment industry for an old Jewish couple for \$1.25 an hour.

- Watching the Patriots lose all the time on the small black-and-white TV that you needed to put Reynolds wrap on the antenna to get clear reception.

- Swimming at Savin Hill Beach and hanging up the Savin Hill woods.

- Playing hoop behind the former Motley School, near the woods, or up at the Bird Street gym.

- Playing CYO, high school, and college hoop.

- Marching for Saint William's Championship Band and winning every year.

- Asking my mom to make me a tuna fish sandwich.

- Watching my father decorate the Christmas tree without fail every year.

- When "everyone wished everyone" a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year without hesitation.



**A** bicycle tour exploring the Dorchester section of Boston's Harborwalk will take place on Saturday, August 11, 2018 from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

Sponsored by Friends of the Boston Harborwalk (FBHW), this free event will cover several beautiful new trails and opportunities for trails on the south side of the city while learning about the vibrant harbor history of this area.

The leisurely bicycle ride will traverse the shared-use sections of the Harborwalk between Lower Mills and UMass Boston. Most of the ride will be off street, though

## AUGUST 11 BIKE TOUR OF DORCHESTER'S HARBORWALK

there is a short half-mile section of uncompleted trail that will be on the side of city streets, according to Ben Wetherill, tour organizer and FBHW volunteer. The 5-mile bike tour will start at the Milton T-stop in Lower Mills and finish at UMass Boston. Participants should bring their own bicycle; there are no shared-bike facilities in Lower Mills. Packing a water bottle is also recommended.

After the ride, those who want to head toward the city can catch the T at the Red Line JFK stop near UMass, and those who want to return to Lower Mills can ride back on the trail with the group leader. Note that bicycles are allowed on the T, but not encouraged on the trolley section that goes from Ashmont Station to Lower Mills.

While admission to the tour is free, space is limited. Reservations can be made via this link:



<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/dorchester-harborwalk-bike-tour-tickets-48714711012>

The FBHW is a volunteer organization affiliated with Boston

Harbor Now that regularly hosts educational tours and other events to promote greater awareness and public enjoyment of Boston's 43-mile Harborwalk.



# Colin Brought People Together



After stopping by St. Augustine's Chapel and Cemetery in South Boston yesterday to say a prayer and take a look at how the renovation were going, I was asked by one of the construction workers, "The Church is making a lot of improvements here, it's going to look great when it is finished for the 200th anniversary in September. It seems like the community is really behind this effort." We were soon joined by a gentleman from Springfield, who drove all the way down to South Boston to visit the historic cemetery. He said he had heard a lot of important stories about the oldest

Catholic Church and Cemetery in Massachusetts, built in 1818 and the official grand re-reopening dedication scheduled to take place on Saturday at the 4 pm Mass. But what he said to me next, certainly gave me pause. He said, "I heard you on radio talking about this, but why all the enthusiasm? What make you think that young Catholics or new comers to Boston will support this historic cemetery and chapel in the future? I was a little caught off guard, but I've heard this argument many times before, so I was determined to make the most positive case I could, and not give in to cynicism and doubt. I didn't question his sincerity as a Catholic, if he was a Catholic. But I did politely but assertively tell him about a couple of experiences that I had, one just the other day and the other many year ago, right here in this community.

You probably heard about the little 3-year-old boy who was killed by a car while being walked in his stroller on L Street, I said. It broke the heart of the people of Boston. My wife Kathy, my son Eddie, my 11-year old special needs grandson Braeden and I arrived at the funeral Mass 45 minutes before it began. Before the Mass began, the Gate of Heaven Church was not only filled, but hundreds of

young adults many in their 20s and 30s were standing up. Their demonstration of love for young Colin McGrath, his family and their faith in God was not only evident, but remarkable. People were crying and praying at the same time. I was one of them.

Many of these young people were from the Mass General Hospital where Colin's mother was a medical doctor and from Boston's financial district where his father worked. These dedicated and caring young people who filled the Church, spoke volumes about the future of the Church. Yes, the priesthood has experienced some difficult times recently, but you would not see any evidence of that with the priests on the altar the other day. You would only see and hear concerned and caring priests. That's the priesthood I know. Always there in a time of need.

The other little story I told our visitor from Springfield was about my two immigrant cousins from Ireland, who lived directly across the street from St. Augustine's Cemetery. Every few days they would scrub the floor and wash the windows of the Cemetery. They even baked Irish Bread and made hot tea for the poor homeless men, who would wait outside the Chapel af-

ter Mass or the daily morning Lent Mass to end. Poor Irish immigrant domestics helping the homeless. This is the Catholic Church I grew up knowing about and this is the same Catholic Church I saw at the funeral Mass for our new beautiful lifelong friend Colin McGrath the other day. I only wish that we had a more effective way to tell the rear Catholic history and story. People who have no idea of our history criticize us and lie to the public.

On Sunday we attended the 10:30 Mass at St. Brigid Church. Young Colin was still on everyone's mind, I'm certain. During the Mass, we were all invited by Fr. Tom to wish the people around us "Christ's Peace." After I helped take up the collection, my wife whispered to me, "Colin's Mom and Dad are sitting directly in front of us." Everybody after Mass came up to the family with a sincere expression of sorrow.

A little 3-year-old boy had done something that no politician or Hollywood movie star could ever do, bring people and a community together. Later in the day, I saw construction crews hard at work to improve the traffic safety conditions on L Street to make sure that this never happens to anyone else. Colin's life is already making a difference.

**Ray Flynn is the former Mayor of Boston and U.S. Ambassador to the Vatican.**

## Residents Seek Answers continued from front page

tions were slated as "immediate/short term" projects to be completed within 3 years. Funding for "immediate/short term" projects had been authorized by the Legislature as part of the state's transportation bond bill signed into law by former Governor Patrick in 2014. The Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT), currently under the leadership of Secretary Stephanie Pollack, a Baker appointee, is the steward of these funds. In addition, MassDOT according to its website, has been authorized over \$300m in its annual budget since FY2015. So, money doesn't seem to be the issue.

After SBT's front page story last week brought these plans and fund-

ing mechanisms to light, residents have been seeking answers to a now common question: Why have road safety plans that were spelled out on MassDOT's own website in January of 2015 with 3-year timeline not been completed?

Beginning this past Sunday evening, the Boston Transportation Department (BTD) began implementing some of the 2015 SBWSTP's recommendations for L Street. One of the other intersections slated for improvements in the 2015 plan was the intersection at East Broadway and Farragut Road, where lifelong South Boston resident Katie Donovan and her son were hit by a driver, who blew through a stop sign on May 31. Donovan and her son are recuperating from serious injuries. After

discovering that plans for that intersection haven't been executed yet within the recommended time frame, Donovan took to social media organizing citizen action and keeping the pressure on public officials and agencies, stating that "we should all be outraged and demand answers".

Another priority project identified in the 2015 plan was the intersection at L street and Day Boulevard. Liam McDermott, son of the late William McDermott, Esq., who was killed in February 2013 when he was hit by an SUV crossing Day Boulevard at night, took to social media as well stating, "public and elected officials owe us all more than promises... they owe us all, action".

In a July 18, 2018 meeting held

at the Curley Recreation Center, MassDOT presented findings on their Road Safety Audit, conducted in February of this year, for Day Boulevard, including recommended changes to the Boulevard that is currently used as an extension of the highway for downtown commuters. In the 2015 plan, the Road Safety Audit was to be the first step toward implementation of Day Boulevard changes.

This all begs the question to transportation officials: What's taking so long? Attempts to seek comments from the respective state and city agencies were made and have not been answered by the time SBT went to print.

What's clear is that they better have answers for residents Thursday night.



# National Night Out Awards Always Draws A Big Crowd

In his first official visit to South Boston since being sworn in as the new Boston Police Commissioner, William Gross, in his civilian clothes, sans the gold epaulets and bars, headlined a list of dignitaries whose presence is always much anticipated by the citizens who believe in community service. Commissioner Gross was joined by his boss, Mayor Marty Walsh, Senator Nick Collins, Councilors Mike Flaherty, Annisssa Essaibi George and Ed Flynn, Sheriff Steve Tompkins, DA Dan Conley, MBTA Chief Kenneth Green and C-6

Captain Joseph Boyle and several uniformed officers. Residents were on hand to applaud the recipients of the various community service awards that highlight the celebration. The 2018 Community Service Awards were presented to SPO Christos Apostilidis and SPO Christopher DeLeo, as well as civilian Boston resident Jennifer Becker. The 2018 Crimewatch Group Service Award was presented to the Mary Ellen McCormack Tenants Task Force and accepted by Carol Sullivan.

The 35th Annual National Night Out Boston is a 2-day citywide celebration that visited 12 individual neighborhoods across the City of Boston over a 48-hour period, on August 6 and 7. For those not familiar with National Night Out, it's an acknowledgement and national celebration of the partnerships that exist between communities and police departments all across the country that, when combined, make communities that much safer. Mayor Walsh travelled across the city to thank community members and Neighbor-

hood Watch Groups for their ongoing help and sustained support of the men and women of the Boston Police Department. Residents and Police enjoyed free admission, food, games, and entertainment. Folks are invited to visit 'sponsor tables' including The Boston Police Foundation, Suffolk County Sheriff's Department, Boston Centers for Youth & Families and a host of others, including local non-profits, who have worked so hard to make this event the special occasion it has become.



Welcome Commissioner Gross



Carol Sullivan of Mary Ellen McCormack Tenants Task Force



Boston Resident Jennifer Becker



SPO Christos Apostilidis and SPO Christopher DeLeo







# DOC RIVERS To Be Inducted Into ABCD Hall Of Fame

*October 26th ABCD  
Community Heroes  
Celebration to honor former  
Celtics coach for extraordinary  
compassion and commitment  
to Boston youth*

**A**ction for Boston Community Development (ABCD) will enshrine Los Angeles Clippers Coach Glenn “Doc” Rivers in its Hall of Fame at its October Community Heroes Celebration at the Boston Marriott Copley Place. Rivers, who led the Boston Celtics to an NBA championship, will take his place alongside such legendary humanitarians as Senator Edward M. Kennedy, civil rights leader Melnea Cass, social justice innovator Sargent Shriver, and community change agent Mel King.

Eight years ago, Rivers co-founded ABCD Hoop Dreams, which has become an iconic annual basketball tourney and fundraiser. Boston area businesses draft teams to play basketball at TD Garden – a fantasy come true – with proceeds benefiting ABCD programs that support underserved, at-risk youth.

Since partnering with ABCD, Rivers has helped transform the lives of thousands of young people through these programs, which include ABCD SummerWorks, a paid sum-



mer jobs initiative that grooms disadvantaged teens for careers, as well as civic and community engagement.

“Doc Rivers has done so much for Boston’s youth through his partnership with ABCD and our Hoop Dreams event,” said ABCD President/CEO John J. Drew. “He’s a man of great talent and great compassion. Although he is based in Los Angeles now, Doc stays involved with ABCD, coming back every year to make Hoop Dreams an unforgettable evening and fundraising success. We’re grateful for all he’s done for ABCD youth and the community at large, and we look forward to welcoming him into the ABCD Hall of Fame.”

Rivers returns as coach and co-host of this year’s ABCD Hoop

Dreams on September 4th. “Congratulations to Doc on this honor,” said Boston Celtics Head Coach Brad Stevens. “Doc has always been a dedicated supporter of ABCD. It’s been fun to spend time with him at the annual Hoop

Dreams event and see his enthusiasm for supporting a great cause that supports kids and families in the Boston community.”

The great sportswriter, ABCD Hoop Dreams Co-founder, and ABCD Hall of Fame member Bob Ryan said, “Far too many professional sports coaches or managers are coaches or managers first and caring, compassionate human beings second. Doc Rivers is the refreshing exception. The minute he learned what ABCD was all about,

he said ‘I want in.’”

The induction ceremony will take place at the 2018 ABCD Community Heroes Celebration on Friday, October 26th, at Boston Marriott Copley Place. The annual event, which will pay tribute to some 20 local unsung heroes who go above and beyond to help greater Boston’s most vulnerable people, will also feature QUEEN LATIFAH – in her own words and in concert.

“We’re excited to welcome Queen Latifah not only because of her amazing work as an actress, singer, and entrepreneur, but because of her heartfelt understanding of our underprivileged neighbors. As a philanthropist, she inspires people in need to overcome obstacles and motivates those who want to lend a hand. It’s a perfect example of how families and communities can thrive when we’re in it together,” said ABCD President/CEO John J. Drew.

In addition, ABCD will honor the exceptional contributions of civic leader and peace activist Chaplain Clementina (Tina) M. Chéry, who is the co-founder, president and CEO of the Louis D. Brown Peace Institute, and longtime partner and friend to ABCD, Sam Nagler, Esq.

For information about the ABCD Community Heroes Celebration, contact Amelia Aubourg at 617-348-6238 or [amelia.aubourg@bostonabcd.org](mailto:amelia.aubourg@bostonabcd.org), and visit [ABCDHeroes.org](http://ABCDHeroes.org).

## **About ABCD**

A Massachusetts-based nonprofit human services organization, ABCD provides low income residents in the Boston and Mystic Valley areas with the tools, support, and resources they need to transition from poverty to stability and from stability to success. Each year, we’ve served more than 100,000 individuals, elders and families through a broad range of innovative initiatives as well as long-established, proven programs and services. For more than 50 years, ABCD has been deeply rooted in each neighborhood we serve, empowering individuals and families and supporting them in their quest to live with dignity and achieve their highest potential. For more, please visit [bostonabcd.org](http://bostonabcd.org).





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

**S**o how about that four-game sweep?

I can honestly say I didn't see that coming, especially after the New York Yankees jumped out to an early 4-0 lead in the first game of the series at Fenway Park on Thursday night. I was at that game on Thursday. Brian Johnson was making the spot start for the injured Chris Sale, who had just been placed on the 10-day disabled list with minor inflammation in his throwing shoulder. Johnson allowed four runs on a pair of home runs in the first two innings. And I can remember feeling like, "This is going to be a long night." Well, I was right about that. But it ended up being a long night for the Yankees, who lost that series opener to the Red Sox, 15-7, thanks to Steve Pearce's three home runs.

The Sox went on to also win the next three, ending the series with a 10th-inning walk-off single by Andrew Benintendi on national TV. Following that win, the Red Sox took a 9.5-game lead over the Yankees in the AL East. There's a lot of baseball to still be played.

And these two teams play each other six more times in the regular season. But there's no way the Red Sox blow this division lead. No bleeping way.

They're the favorite to win the World Series at +325. I'm not guaranteeing you they'll win it all, because they still have to beat the Houston Astros — or maybe even the Yankees — in the postseason. But I will guarantee you they win the AL East. That race is over. A lot of that has to do with the way J.D. Martinez is playing. He might finish the season with 50 home runs. And yeah, you can consider me surprised.

Martinez didn't sign with the Red Sox until late February. He signed a five-year, \$110 million deal that includes several opt-outs. The first opt-out is after the second year of the contract. Well, at \$22 million a year, if he keeps raking like this through next season, then you can expect him to hit free agency once again. If you had told me in the winter that Martinez would be playing like this, then I would've told you he'd be the highest paid player in baseball. At \$22 million per year,

he's not even in the top 10.

I was skeptical about Martinez. But so was everybody else in Major League Baseball. Even the Red Sox, who waited until the last minute to get the deal done. Had somebody stepped in and offered Martinez \$25 million a year, I'm not convinced that the Red Sox would've even got into a bidding war for Martinez' services. It felt like the Red Sox had a number, and they were sticking to it. If nobody else wanted Martinez, then the Sox would get him at their price. And that's exactly what happened.

I said it in February, and I'll say it again now. Martinez is only in Boston because nobody else wanted him. And because nobody else wanted him, I wasn't sold on him. I was wrong. But again, so was everybody in the league. Martinez has been playing out of his mind. And it's not streaky. It's steady. It's not a fluke. And it makes you think, "What was the rest of the league thinking?"

It was announced this week that Conor McGregor will return to the Octagon on Oct. 6 at UFC 229 in Las Vegas. He'll challenge the

undefeated Khabib Nurmagomedov for the Lightweight championship. It wasn't too long ago that McGregor held both the Featherweight and Lightweight titles. But he was stripped of both due to inactivity, as he stepped into the boxing ring to fight Floyd Mayweather.

It also wasn't too long ago that McGregor attempted an attack on Khabib's bus that ended with McGregor being charged with assault. Consider me SHOCKED that they'll be fighting each other six months later. UFC denied that the bus attack was a stunt. And to an extent, it wasn't, as the legal issues McGregor faced afterwards were real. But come on now, it's not like McGregor's life is going to be affected in any way because of those legal "issues." If anything, they just generated more buzz for their fight, which makes everybody more money.

It was a stunt.

**Listen to "The Danny Picard Show" at [dannypicard.com](http://dannypicard.com). Also available on iTunes, Tunein, Google Play, iHeartRadio, and Spotify. Subscribe to his YouTube channel at [youtube.com/dannypicard](http://youtube.com/dannypicard).**

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- REGISTRATION FEE: \$150 FOR A – E TEAMS
- REGISTRATION FEE: \$100 FOR F TEAM
- REGISTRATION FEE DECREASES BY \$25 FOR EACH ADDITIONAL CHILD
- CHEERLEADING UNIFORM DEPOSIT IS \$75 (DUE BY AUGUST 1)
- FOOTBALL AGES 5 - 14.
- CHEERLEADING AGES 5 - 15.