



## The State Of The Edison Plant: Two Years And Counting

The history of the South Boston neighborhood is anchored in a reputation for preserving the quality of life of its residents against often heavy odds – economic, societal and political. As the development proposal for the Boston Edison Power Plant (776 Summer Street) is about to enter its third year of public review, and after years of fighting development in general, one wonders if the neighborhood is suffering from meeting

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# EDITORIAL

## Throwing Rocks And Bottles Will Get Them Nowhere

The live video footage of what is going on at the southern border shows that what the news media has been trying its hardest to convince the American people about the 'caravans' is not accurate. The hundreds of people, mostly young men, storming the border fence last weekend, hurling rocks and bottles at our soldiers and border patrol personnel, who are just doing their jobs, are not all the gentle refugees fleeing persecution seeking a better life as those in the press are even now, continuing to claim. Though the majority of those who made their way to the border are most likely decent folks, the hundreds who violently tried to crash our border are criminals, pure and simple.

Those assaulting the border fence, and our troops defending it, were warned over and

over that if attacked, the border patrol would respond with force. When you are being pelted with flying objects meant to inflict injury, responding with non-lethal pepper spray is indeed showing restraint. That there actually were a few women and children in the mix trying to breach the border wall was unfortunate. But rather than blame the border defenders for the result, the finger of blame should instead be pointed at the adults who should know better.

What kind of parents would knowingly put their children in a volatile and dangerous situation is the question that should be asked by the media, not how could the border patrol do such a thing. The people that make up the migrant caravan have no right to demand they be let into this country and attempt to crash through the border when that demand is denied.



There are legal ways to enter the United States that have worked for more two centuries. If those in the caravan feel they don't need to follow our laws, they should turn around and go home. Because President Trump has made it quite clear – they're not getting in.

*"Border security is the most basic and necessary responsibility of a sovereign nation" – Kirstjen Nielsen*

## Municipal and MBTA Police Exam, March 23rd

### How to Apply, What You Should Know

SBT Staff Report

Those who may have been thinking about a possible career in law enforcement are in luck. The exam for Municipal and MBTA Police is com-

ing up on March 23rd, 2019, that's less than 4 months away with a deadline for filing an application to take the test on February 5th.

The application process began back on November 6th and there are still plenty of opportunities to apply. The fee for this written exam is \$100 and the eligibility is entry level and open to the public. The deadline for applying is February 5th and there will be an additional charge, a late fee, of \$50 for applications received after this date. The test itself will be given at various locations around the state and those locations will be announced in the coming weeks.

The chance for qualified candidates to become police officers if they pass the test is promising. It's been reported that there are fewer people, both men and women, seeking careers in law enforcement. This is a situation that runs in cycles from time to time and has many times over the years. For example, it's also been reported that many police and sheriff's departments around the country are functioning with less staff than needed. For example, the Boston Police Department at one point was said to be nearly 400 police officers short because of retirements and fewer applicants. It's because of the lower number

of applicants in so many areas that the chances becoming a member of law enforcement have increased. But remember, a candidate must be qualified, ready both physically and mentally and without a disqualifying criminal record.

In recent years, the pay rate and benefits for police officers have become more lucrative. In fact, Boston's police force has become the envy of much of the country, primarily of course for its reputation for professionalism and success, but also because of the excellent pay and benefits packages that comes with the job.

So, if you you've thought about police work, now



would be a good time to give it a try, sign up for the coming test and see how you do.

For more information on the upcoming exam, what it takes to qualify and additional information about being a police officer go to [www.mass.gov/service-details/2019-municipal-and-mbta-transit-police-officer-exam](http://www.mass.gov/service-details/2019-municipal-and-mbta-transit-police-officer-exam)

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# The Information Center



## *Policed Commissioner Gross: Thank You For All You Do*

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY

John Ciccone

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

This newspaper got quite a few comments by email, phone calls and on our social media sites regarding the war of words taking place between Boston Police Commissioner William G. Gross and the ACLU and it was overwhelmingly in favor of the ‘Commish’. Commissioner Gross, affectionately known as ‘Willy’ by many of his colleagues, rank and file police officers and people in all of the city’s neighborhoods was criticized by the local chapter of ACLU and other activist groups for what they say is his ‘profiling’ of suspected gang members. The combined groups have filed a Public Records lawsuit against the department, because of what they say is the unfair targeting of various groups in the city.

We don’t have all the exact wording of the lawsuit, so I won’t get into the details of it, but let me be among literally thousands of Bostonians that have come down openly and publicly in support of the commissioner and in opposition to the ACLU’s criticism and add my name to the high praise this new commissioner so richly deserves.

Yes, Commissioner Gross has been identifying suspected gang members, who have been on police radar for quite some time. He has declared war on the gangs in this city, including the notorious MS-13 gang to the delight of most. This is a man who came up through the ranks in the department, knows the streets of Boston like the back of his hand and is highly respected in every neighborhood of the city, all of which he feels very comfortable in, especially since he has been made to

feel welcome in every one of them.

He puts his heart and soul into his job, is held in high esteem and respected by the members of the department and is willingly on call 24/7. But what has also earned him respect is his willingness to speak out on the tough issues and not be cowed by political correctness.

Like many large cities, Boston has a gang problem and a drug problem. And he just doesn’t talk about these issues, he takes the actions he feels are needed to deal directly and effectively with them with the ultimate goal of solving the problems. Now, by bluntly speaking out about the gang and drug problem and openly laying out what he feels needs to be done to solve them, he rubs some influential people the wrong way. They don’t seem to like it. But Commissioner Gross doesn’t let this frighten him or deter him from doing his job and a good job it is that he’s doing.

He has a refreshing style and he is appreciated by most Bostonians because people know his goal is their public safety. Keep up the great work you are doing Commissioner. Your efforts continue to make this city a better place to live. And don’t let the detractors get to you. They are few in number, as the outpouring of support you’ve received clearly shows.

Well, the Black Friday shopping frenzy has come and gone and seems to get crazier every year nationwide. Riots at shopping malls, gunshots, assaults, screaming, yelling, grown adults brawling on department store floors over a sweater or a flat screen like it was a blood sport, it’s all

quite entertaining. But I guess some people just feel the need to get physical in an effort to work off all that Thanksgiving turkey. Hey, whatever makes them happy?

THANK YOU SBCA!

I’d like to close this week’s column with a special heartfelt and very sincere Thank You to the students at South Boston Catholic Academy for the big, beautiful Happy Thanksgiving card they hand made and sent to my home. It was signed by the students and

included photos and drawings. On it was written the following:

“Dear Mr. Ciccone, Thank you and the staff at South Boston Today for doing such a wonderful job of including our school in your weekly newspaper. Happy Thanksgiving to all! From all of us at South Boston Catholic Academy”

It was easy to see that a lot of work and thought went into this awesome card and I was honored to receive it. I will frame it and cherish it. Again – THANK YOU!

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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.

## As Moulton puts out peace feelers, Pressley announces she's backing Pelosi

U.S. Rep.-elect Ayanna Pressley hopped off the political fence yesterday, officially announcing she's backing Nancy Pelosi for House speaker, reports the Globe's Travis Andersen. And what timing. The New York Times and the Washington Postreport that U.S. Rep. Seth Moulton, the ringleader of opposition to Pelosi, is

effectively sending out peace feelers to Pelosi, now that it appears his coup attempt isn't going to succeed. He's not quite surrendering. More like exploring terms for a truce.

Interestingly, Pelosi, besides deciding whether Moulton should kneel next time she sees him, has a few more centrist-Dem fires to put out, as the Post reports. And Moulton has some progressive-Dem fires to put out in his home

district, the Salem News reports.

## Clark faces big leadership vote tomorrow

As the weakened U.S. Rep. Seth Moulton seeks peace talks with Nancy Pelosi, U.S. Rep. Karherine Clark could be elected vice chairperson of the Democratic Congressional caucus tomorrow, making her the fifth-highest ranking member of the party in Congress and an important part

of the expected Pelosi leadership team when the new session begins in January, Nik DeCosta-Klipa reports at Boston.com. But first Clark must defeat California Rep. Pete Aguilar in a caucus vote.

## Hodgson to home protesters: Go ahead, make my day

Bristol County Sheriff Thomas Hodgson is almost hoping those lefty punks at FANG Collaborative show up at his house again to protest – because if they cross any legal line at all, he and his boys are ready to pounce. “We’re going to lock you up,” Hodgson tells the Herald’s Sean Philip Cotter.

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John Flaherty 2019 High Honors

# South Boston Students Earn BC High Honors

All young men of South Boston achieved Honors for the First Quarter at Boston College High School. For High Honors an upperclassman must have at least a 3.8 quality point average and all grades C+ or higher. For honors upperclassmen need a 3.2 QPA and all grades C- or higher. Freshmen need a 3.16 QPA and all grades C- or higher.

Boston College High School is a Jesuit, Catholic, college-preparatory school for young men founded in 1863. The school enrolls approximately 1600 students from more than 100 communities in eastern Massachusetts.



Daniel Murtagh 2019 High Honors



Chase Thomas 2019 High Honors



Joseph Arlauskas 2019 Honors



Arbri Leka 2020 High Honors



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## Senator Collins Advances Gas Workers Bill



State Senator Nick Collins recently presided over Senate Session, advancing legislation to the Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities, and Energy which would address the ongoing labor dispute between National Grid and the 1,200 members of USW Local 12003 and 12012.

Since the gas workers contract expired on June 24th, 2018, they have been locked out from working on National Grid projects, grinding construction to a halt and threatening public and consumer safety. The bill that was advanced, HD 4975, An Act relative to the employment of certain workers by National Grid, would do sev-

eral things to encourage National Grid, a multi-billion-dollar international business, to bring the negotiations to a resolution and end the lockout, including:

- Restricting National Grid's ability to apply to Chapter 90 state reimbursement funds
- Restricting any increases in gas or electric distribution rates for customers
- Requiring National Grid to continue paying for health insurance for the employees

"It is unacceptable that National Grid would put their profits before the wellbeing of their employees who do dangerous work and I am proud to stand with my colleagues in denouncing this short-sighted greed" said Senator Collins. "I look forward to helping achieve a swift resolution so that the hard-working men and women of USW Local 12003 and 12012 can get back to work. It is particularly concerning that we are heading into the holiday season, with very cold temperatures, and these employees are still out of work while construction projects are stalled without heat."

The bill now moves to the Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities, and Energy where it will have a public hearing as it moves through the legislative process.



## Councilors Flaherty & Flynn To Hold SB Waterfront Transit Plan Hearing

Boston City Councilor At-Large Michael F. Flaherty and Boston City Councilor Ed Flynn will hold a hearing at the City Council this Friday, November 30th at 10am regarding the South Boston Waterfront Sustainable Transportation Plan. The Councilors seek to obtain current status updates and timelines

for the project. In addition, they will discuss what opportunities for community input will be afforded to South Boston residents, in particular South Boston's Fort Point and South Boston's Waterfront neighborhoods.

Flaherty said, "Given that significant funding and resources have

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## The State of the Edison

Continued from page

fatigue. Indicative of the challenge that residents and elected officials have in dealing with the volume of infrastructure and real estate development project-related matters, several public meetings were scheduled on November 13 at the same time but in different locations in the area, including BPDA sponsored meeting on 21-35 West 2nd Street at 50 West Broadway, a MassDOT Design Public Hearing regarding Roadway Construction Cypher Street, E Street, and Fargo Street, as well as the City Point Neighborhood Association Monthly Meeting.

Nonetheless, the residents of South Boston have proved in the past that they will not be “worn down” by a bureaucracy that is intent on “getting its way” even in the face of significant opposition. The Edison Project’s public meetings have been stretching on for almost two years and attendance at these meetings at the Tynan School had dropped off considerably after the September 2018 meeting, where community opposition was made clear by a show of hands from those in attendance.

So, first, here is the brief but detailed history of the project (not often chronicled by the public agency, unless one has the time to wade through thousands of pages of documents) and what might lie ahead as 2019 approaches.

In May 2017, after a series of public meetings, the development team, led by Redgate Capital Partners (Redgate) and Hilco Real Estate (Hilco), filed an environmental project notification form and expanded project notification form with the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs (EEA) and the Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA). The Project Form included 2.1 million square feet of mixed-use residential, commercial, and hotel space. The initial design called for an estimated 1500 units of housing and 987 parking spaces, with over 10,000 daily vehicle trips per day. The proposal also called for the construction of new streets, blocks and buildings, with heights reaching as high as 220 feet.

Public meetings and Impact

Advisory Group (IAG) meetings occurred over the next several months to discuss the proposal and its impact on the neighborhood. Over 300 comments were submitted by residents, elected officials, and government agencies. Elected officials raised concerns around density, traffic, noting that the proposal would increase traffic and street congestion while overwhelming the neighborhood’s public transit system, and environmental contaminants.

Comments from those meetings and review of written comments on file criticized the height, density and massing of the project as out of place in the South Boston neighborhood and for providing only the bare minimum in terms of affordable housing under the City of Boston’s inclusionary development policy.

In August 2018, Redgate and Hilco filed its Draft Environmental Impact Report/Draft Project Impact Report with EEA and the BDPA in response to the comments received over the course of 2017.

Comparing the 2018 Proposal with the 2017 Proposal reveals that:

- (1) the unit count dropped from 1500 units to 1344 units;
- (2) buildable space decreased from 2.1 million square feet to 1.93 million square feet;
- (3) maximum building heights dropped from 220 feet to 206 feet (with building heights ranging from 82 feet tall to 206 feet tall); and
- (4) the number of parking spaces increased from 987 spaces to 1397 spaces.

The 2018 Proposal did not provide a calculation of the daily trips generated by this new proposal (these numbers were provided in the fall at a later public meeting and estimated approximately 5,000 trips per day generated by the development). In order to address potential impacts on public transit, the newest proposal included a pilot program to operate a private bus service inbound toward South Station along the MBTA’s Number 7 bus route.

The BPDA hosted another round of IAG meetings and four public meetings during September and October for discussions on transportation, land use and design, and climate change

resilience and environmental issues. During these meetings, which were chronicled by this publication, the majority of residents who spoke continued to raise concerns regarding the height, massing, and density of this newest proposal. At a packed meeting at the Tynan School with the BPDA and development team in September, elected officials asked for a show of hands on the project. The vast majority of those in attendance raised their hands in opposition to the project.

Several elected officials also criticized the failure of the 2018 Proposal to include estimated vehicle trips from the newest development proposal, pointing out that the estimates were provided to the community for the first time at the public meeting rather than in the proposal’s filing. Elected officials also questioned how the development team concluded that the new proposal would decrease the number of average trips per day from roughly 10,000 trips to approximately 5,000 trips.

Throughout these meetings, community members renewed criticisms that this new proposal failed to provide more than the bare minimum in terms of affordable housing and the City of Boston’s inclusionary development policy. Review of written comments to EEA also reveals that elected officials and state agencies were critical of the 2018 Proposal.

As reported last week, the South Boston elected delegation has been vocal in their opposition to this development, voicing concerns over the massing and density of the project, traffic congestion, and the lack of clarity surrounding the estimated vehicle trips. In a written letter, the elected officials asked the development team to provide details as to reasonable alternatives to the current proposal.

In a letter submitted to EEA, dated October 30, 2018, the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) stated that it opposed the mitigation proposal to provide supplemental service along the MBTA Number 7 bus route, noting that the duration of the program was not made clear. MassDOT also noted concerns that the development team had not committed to a

long-term solution for additional ridership generated by the development, outside of the proposed pilot program, which MassDOT found particularly concerning given the marketing of the project as being transit-oriented.

Following review of the 2018 Proposal and written comments, EEA’s certificate noted that the development should consider additional revisions to its preferred alternative to reduce impacts, including, but not limited to, further reductions in the size of the project to reduce traffic impacts. EEA also identified the need for a revised analysis of the project’s transportation impacts that better characterizes its effect on transit and identification of alternative mitigation measures.

2019 is here and South Boston’s elected officials have been working hard and keeping close watch on the proposed redevelopment of the Boston Edison Power Plant. For over two years, they have listened to resident concerns about the project’s deficiencies regarding land use, transportation, density, and quality of life.

Are their efforts and concerns falling on deaf ears? The comment period regarding the 2018 Proposal closed in October. Despite requests from residents and elected officials, the BPDA refused to extend the comment period. Given the history of documented opposition to the project, why is the BDPA allowing this proposal to move forward? Why are significant changes in the development proposal not been forthcoming in writing?

As some fear, is the strategy to simply tire out the neighborhood with constant public meetings? Maybe the South Boston elected officials should host a meeting and invite Redgate and the BPDA to attend as guests and hear from residents and neighbors directly and clearly. Residents in general expect and are comfortable with something being built there, just not the current proposal.

In the meantime, residents are encouraged to continue to submit comments on the currently proposal by emailing them to Tim Czerwien-ski, the BPDA Project Manager, at tim.czerwien-ski@boston.gov



# Mayor Announces Partnership With Verizon

*Verizon will accelerate small cell deployment for additional wireless broadband capacity, bring Fios Internet and TV to all city neighborhoods, and provide Verizon Smart Communities products and services.*

Mayor Martin J. Walsh and Verizon announced a new partnership that will accelerate Boston's plan to be one of the most technologically advanced cities in the nation, giving residents more choice. Building on the partnership formed in 2016, Verizon will expand its local wireless network speed and capacity to its local 4G LTE network, expand Fios internet and cable television to all neighborhoods in Boston, and collaborate with Boston on Smart Communities solutions.

"Our partnership with Verizon reflects one goal: to make sure all of Boston's residents have access to the most advanced digital technology both now, and in the future," said Mayor Walsh. "We're making sure Boston is the best digital city in the nation, and through partnerships with companies like Verizon, residents

will have better, more affordable options, as we work together to create inclusive growth for our city."

These technology enhancements are in addition to Verizon's original \$300 million investment to build a 100 percent fiber-optic network platform across Boston. The expansion of Verizon's wireless small cell network now almost doubles that investment to nearly \$600 million total. Verizon will also be contributing \$1 million over eight years to the Boston Digital Equity Fund to help support programs that provide affordable access to broadband to underserved residents.

"The City of Boston has been a tremendous partner for us, and a great leader in building the digital city of the future," said Kyle Malady, Chief Technology Officer of Verizon. "Together we're creating a platform of innovation with the latest technology that will benefit Boston residents, businesses, universities, first responders and visitors for decades to come."

Under an a new 10-year wireless agreement, Verizon will significantly expand its wireless small cell network throughout the city to bring more speed and capacity to its existing 4G LTE network.

The City of Boston will provide Verizon with a streamlined permitting process for the installation of new small cells and Verizon plans to provide a host of Verizon Smart Communities products and services that will

enable Boston to achieve efficiencies in areas such as traffic management, safety and energy efficiency.

Verizon and the City of Boston are amending the existing TV license agreement to expand Fios TV services. More than half the homes in Boston now have access to this all-fiber network, and Fios service is available in Dorchester, Hyde Park, Jamaica Plain, Mattapan, Roslindale, Roxbury, Seaport, South Boston and West Roxbury. The new amendment will enable Fios TV expansion as the fiber network is built in South Boston, South End, Allston, Brighton, Back Bay, Charlestown, East Boston, Fenway and Downtown.

Verizon today also announced further plans regarding its long-term lease of more than 450,000 square feet for its technology workforce at The Hub on Causeway. Verizon's presence at the Hub on Causeway will include 16 floors of innovatively designed space, of which, five floors will be reserved for incubators, accelerators, and partners.

Mayor Walsh has been committed to bringing more equity and choice to residents throughout Boston, from launching Boston's first-ever Digital Equity Fund, which aims to provide support to community-based organizations that help Boston residents fully connect and participate in today's media and information landscape; to bringing WiFi hotspots to the Boston Public Library's lending program; to Boston's Wicked Free



WiFi program; to working to protect Net Neutrality rules that ensure a fair and open internet.

The City of Boston's Broadband and Digital Equity efforts improve access to affordable and reliable high-speed Internet for households and businesses, expand the availability of high-speed Internet in public places, and facilitate ease of access to up-to-date digital tools. Enabling a more competitive broadband marketplace is at the cornerstone of the City's work to ensure that households and businesses can choose among a range of high quality, affordable high-speed Internet options.

Yesterday, Mayor Walsh also announced Boston has appointed its new Chief Information Officer, David J. Elges, who will lead the City's efforts to enhance online service delivery, empower City employees with effective digital tools, use data to focus resources where they are most needed, and improve access to technology and broadband across all Boston neighborhoods. Elges will continue Boston's work with Verizon as the City continues to provide more choices and more access for all of Boston's residents.

## Window into the State House...

Continued from page 4

### Amid ridership and fare revenue declines, the T's pension costs rise to 'unsustainable' levels

CommonWealth magazine's Bruce Mohl pulls double duty this morning, reporting on the T's continuing ridership and fare-revenue declines in one story and the T's "unsustainable" and "spiraling out of control" pension costs in another story. Unless we're mistaken, something isn't adding up at the T.

### Boston now has two big education posts to fill

Rahn Dorsey, who became Boston's first-ever "education chief" in 2014, has stepped down due to per-

sonal reasons "and in anticipation of the need to address family matters in 2019," Walsh's office said in a statement last week, reports WBUR. The Herald's Kathleen McKiernan notes Dorsey's departure has created an education leadership void at the top, as the city also searches for a new school superintendent.

### Is it time for a statewide mass-transit board?

The Globe's Adam Vaccaro has a piece on what comes next after the legal mandate for the MBTA's Fiscal and Management Control Board, which was created after the winter crisis of 2015, expires in mid-2020. There seems to be a consensus that some sort of oversight needs to remain. But what

type of oversight? Among the ideas being floated: A statewide transit authority that would oversee both the T and regional transit authorities.

Meanwhile, CommonWealth magazine's Bruce Mohl reports that mayors and city managers across eastern Massachusetts are forming a new coalition to advocate for the MBTA's commuter rail system. We're surprised such a coalition didn't already exist. Btw: The Herald had a story over the weekend about the launch of a new state study to pinpoint the Boston area's worst traffic spots.

### Not sold: Walsh sure doesn't sound gung-ho about retail pot shops

As the media descended last week on Leicester and Northampton to cover

the opening of the state's first retail pot shops, the city of Boston was quietly putting the finishing touches on a host agreement to open a pot shop in Boston, probably by early next year. But Mayor Marty Walsh, who opposed legalization of marijuana, doesn't seem excited about hosting a weed joint in Boston, reports the Herald's Brooks Sutherland. "I hope the taxation's worth the human toll," Walsh said when asked about the prospect of new revenue for the city.

The Globe's Dan Adams reports that pot-shop rollouts, despite last week's hype, could be rather slow moving forward in Boston and elsewhere. The Herald's Jordan Graham, meanwhile, has a helpful list of pot shops set to open in the near future.

# The Wine Guy

## Blending Right In

As we continue to see all the new products and services emerging from the Internet of Things, you should know that some of those products and capabilities are contributing to the production of Red Blends that are more and more impressive. While winemaking will hopefully, always be an art, technological innovations in the process are allowing for better and better blends

to be “produced” before they’re even mixed. Programs can now tell makers how long to age for maximum flavor and structure, how much barrel and/or stainless age time to use and how long it should be in the bottle before offering, to name just a few of the aspects that are now, “by the numbers”.

All these innovations mean that, in a lot of cases, higher quality is costing less; one more reason to embrace technology!

22 Pirates 2016 Red Blend, Clos La Chance, California, (\$22.95), is a great example. Clos La Chance is a winery that started very small. Co-owners Bill and Brenda Murphy decided to plant a few rows of Chardonnay in their Saratoga backyard, both for landscaping purposes and to realize their dreams of being small-scale vintners. Before long, their grapes and wine were in huge demand and as they say, the rest is history. Their 22 Pirates Red Blend was created to employ the outstanding Rhone Varietals being produced by



premier wine growers throughout California and it really delivers. The wine has a dark black violet color with aromas and flavors of ripe blackberry, vanilla bean, white chocolate and fresh mint with a round, vibrant, fruity medium body and a tingling, compelling, medium-long cinnamon-sugar finish with well-integrated, medium tannins and light oak. A lip-smacking Rhone varietal blend from Monterey; you may need more than one bottle!

Francis Ford Coppola hasn’t made any big moves lately, but never mind. He’s still making big things; they just come in liquid form! His Director’s Cut 2013 Cinema Red Blend, Sonoma, (27.99), is a delicious example. Cinema is a limited-production proprietary blend from Coppola. It’s comprised of fruit from select sub-appellations of Sonoma including Dry Creek Valley, Alexander Valley and Knights Valley. The outstanding 2013 vintage offered ample high-quality fruit. It’s a spicy, full-bodied red, layered with dark berry fruit components and an edge of earthiness.

Hornos Special Reserve Red 2012 Vina San Pedro, (\$36.99), is a worthy entry from Chile, a country which continues to offer more and more value and quality every year. Wine Spectator scored this 92 points saying “Powerful yet taut, with plenty of savory

notes to the dried cherry and berry flavors, lingering with bitter-sweet chocolate details. Roasted hints fill the elegant finish, which offers plenty of spice. Cabernet Sauvignon, Syrah and Malbec. Drink now through 2020.” and Wine Enthusiast Magazine also scored this 92 saying “Concentrated aromas of tarry berry fruits, herbs, eucalyptus, olive and briar patch are as Chilean as Pablo Neruda. This Cabernet-led blend is chewy, full and nicely textured. Spicy, mildly herbal flavors of blackberry, plum and cassis finish spicy, with integrated but noticeable oak. Drink this powerful wine through 2023.” They’re absolutely on the mark.

Locations E Red Blend, Dave Phinney, Spain, (\$17.99). I saved the best for last. Dave Phinney of Orin Swift fame has branched out beyond California to produce a line of international wines that show off his expertise blending different varietals as well as his uncanny ability to make wines that taste twice as good as the cost. The E5 is sourced from Spain, from multi-vintages and it exhibits remarkable complexity and drinkability. This one’s a blend of Grenache, Tempranillo, Monastrell and Carignan and it is unequivocally mouth-watering and delicious, with a core of ripe black fruit and supple tannins. The price is beautiful, too.

## Sunrise Learning Academy

### Childcare & Preschool

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[directorseaport@sunriselearningacademy.com](mailto:directorseaport@sunriselearningacademy.com)

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Recent South Boston Real Estate Sales					
Property/Type	Price	Sale Date	Rooms	Baths	Sq Ft
45 West Third St UNIT 423 Condo	\$1,075,000	7/18/18	5	2	1092
45 West Third St UNIT 517 Condo	\$1,025,000	7/18/18	6	2	1017
45 West Third St UNIT 514 Condo	\$945,000	7/18/18	3	1	959
45 West Third St UNIT 222 Condo	\$899,000	7/18/18	4	1	959
471 East Third St UNIT 2 Condo	\$878,000	7/18/18	4	2	1084
45 West Third St UNIT 221 Condo	\$775,000	7/18/18	4	1	870
45 West Third St UNIT 501 Condo	\$775,000	7/18/18	4	1	746
320 West Second St UNIT 305 Condo	\$770,000	7/18/18	4	1	984
45 West Third St UNIT 504 Condo	\$760,000	7/18/18	4	1	774
45 West Third St UNIT 418 Condo	\$740,000	7/18/18	4	1	774
45 West Third St UNIT 420 Condo	\$740,000	7/18/18	4	1	774
45 West Third St UNIT 505 Condo	\$685,000	7/18/18	3	1	658
545 East Seventh St UNIT 1 Condo	\$650,000	7/18/18	6	2	852
55 Middle St UNIT 3 Condo	\$635,000	7/16/18	4	1	932
161 West Sixth St UNIT A Condo	\$549,900	7/19/18	3	1	785
211 West Fifth St UNIT 1 Condo	\$437,000	7/18/18	3	1	575

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## Employment Wanted: People with disabilities are eager to work



With more than six million unfilled positions and companies reporting that they are challenged to find skilled workers, job training and continuing education is more important than ever. Recently the Administration issued an executive order to expand opportunities for apprenticeships to help many “forgotten” Americans secure jobs. Still, there is another often overlooked segment of the workforce who could benefit from this training initiative: people with disabilities.

Indeed, including people with disabilities in this initiative could make progress toward easing the high rate of unemployment faced by these talented workers. Companies, too, would benefit by focusing on inclusion and taking advantage of the skills and expertise that people with disabilities bring to their jobs.

Much progress has been made in improving the quality of life for people with disabilities in our lifetime. Still, challenges persist, particularly in the area of employment.

The unemployment rate remains high among people with disabilities.

In 2017, the Department of Labor found:

- The average unemployment rate for people with disabilities was 9.2%, nearly double that of people without disabilities (4.2%).
- The labor force participation rate was only 18.7% for people with disabilities compared with 65.7% for people without disabilities.
- People with disabilities are more likely to work part-time (32%), compared with 17% for people without disabilities. Many work for less than minimum wage.

At the same time, numerous surveys report that people with disabilities want to work. A 2015 Kessler

Foundation Study found that more than 68% of people with disabilities are striving to work. These activities were defined as people preparing for work, searching for work, or looking for more hours at an existing job.

### *Undiscovered talent*

Many companies recognize that people with disabilities can contribute to their competitive advantage. As noted in Training Industry magazine, people who spend their lives facing obstacles and meeting challenges, can bring unique problem-solving skills to the workplace. People with disabilities, eager to work, demonstrate their value to an organization with enthusiasm, low absenteeism, higher productivity, and higher retention rates.

In 2014, research by the Institute for Corporate Productivity, revealed that companies that hired individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) found that the workers exceeded expectations.

- 75% of employers said hiring people with IDD was a positive experience; fully one-third said the experience exceeded expectations

Technology is changing the nature of work. Today, many employees work independently, or at remote locations. Assistive technology has also made it

possible for more people with disabilities to secure successful careers. Adoption of universal design helps all workers, including people with disabilities, physically access and function in the workplace. Many companies find they can connect with a significant pool of workers just by introducing a few low-cost accommodations.

### *America's competitive edge*

Certainly, the strength of a well-trained and educated workforce is key to our nation's ability to compete globally. To be sure, remaining competitive is inherent to America's DNA.

And so is innovation. Our technological advancements, combined with thoughtful workforce development policies, can increase access to quality jobs for people with disabilities. Everyone deserves the chance to experience the dignity of work and to contribute to their community. By expanding policies to include training and support for often overlooked populations, like people with disabilities, we can make a huge difference in the quality of life for so many of our citizens and neighbors.

James T. Brett, President & CEO of the New England Council, is a member of the National Council on Disability and is the Chairman of the Governor's Commission on Intellectual Disability.

## South Boston Catholic Academy News

We want to say a special Thank you to all the members of our 2018-2019 South Boston Catholic Academy Student Council. With help and advice by our Guidance Counselor, Ms. Meghan Logue. This year's South Boston Catholic Academy Student Council has been off to a great start working on fundraisers and community service projects. They are a hardworking group of students. We thank the South Boston Catholic Academy 6th grade officers for running the pink ribbon fundraiser to support the Ellie Fund for Breast Cancer Awareness Month and helping with the collection of the Halloween candy to be delivered to the troops overseas. They also helped out at our schools Annual Halloween Dances. Our student council lead our Food Drive to ensure that the St. Vincent de Paul food pantry was stocked for Thanksgiving. Now they are getting ready to host our upcoming South Boston Catholic Academy Christmas Party for all the students which will also be a

tag day and the students can wear red on this day and all donations will be going to A Bed for Every Child Program.

Students at South Boston Catholic Academy held a prayer service, lead by our 6th graders, on the Wednesday before the Thanksgiving holiday, as well as concluded their food drive. As a school community, students shared what they are thankful for and discussed the idea of gratitude and our Pastor, Father Casey, said a special Thanksgiving Prayer and Blessing. We are grateful as a community for all our wonderful families and friends who support our school and the incredible students who make our school so special!

We are now accepting applications online for the 2019-2020 School Year. To learn more about what makes South Boston Catholic Academy so special join us for a tour on Tuesdays and Fridays at 9am. For more information, please email Mr. Jamie Brown, Assistant Principal at [j.brown@sbccatholicacademy.org](mailto:j.brown@sbccatholicacademy.org) or phone 617-268-2326.





# Mayor And Commissioner Gross Announce BPD Youth Award Recipients

*\$500,000 to go to youth development programs across Boston*



**M**ayor Martin J. Walsh and Boston Police Commissioner William Gross today announced the recipients of Boston's Police Youth Development Fund. The City of Boston has doubled last year's funding, and this year, \$500,000 will go to the Youth Development Fund, which provides \$25,000 to 20 organizations which work to provide development programs for Boston's youth, ensuring they have access to programs that give them more opportunities to thrive and succeed. In addition, the City has applied for funding through the Commonwealth's Shannon Community Safety Initiative to further support multidisciplinary approaches to curb youth violence through coordinated prevention and intervention programs.

"In Boston, we work every day to make sure our young people are lifted up and given every opportunity to succeed. That means through education, through development programs, and through having a safe, stable environment that will give them the resources and opportunities they need," said Mayor Walsh. "The Boston Police are a major partner in this, and I'm proud that today we're able to fund 20 great organizations that

will make a lasting difference in the lives of Boston's youth for years to come."

Under the leadership of Mayor Walsh, the Boston Police Department has prioritized community policing as an effective way to reduce crime, while building trust with the community. The Boston Police Department received national recognition from the Obama Administration in 2015 as being one of the top cities in the nation that is leading the way on community policing. Earlier this year, Mayor Walsh announced the formation of the Bureau of Community Engagement at the Boston Police Department, which is charged with overseeing a citywide effort to further strengthen community policing in Boston, and focused on ways to build relationships and trust between law enforcement and residents, creating new and innovative partnerships, and promoting inclusion and diversity within the department. Commissioner Gross appointed Superintendent Nora Baston to serve as Bureau Chief for the Bureau.

"As Commissioner, my number one goal to ensure all residents in Boston are safe -- and that includes Boston's young people," said Commissioner Gross. "We

have the biggest opportunity to change lives by providing resources and support to Boston's youth, and through these programs, we are able to positively impact lives and create a better city for all."

As part of Boston's overall community policing strategy, the Boston Police Department prioritizes relationships with youth and the community as the key to building trust and creating safe neighborhoods. This starts with an emphasis on daily interactions on the streets and in school classrooms, and includes proactive prevention and diversion for at-risk youth and their families. In addition, the department provides positive pathways for our youth through programs such as Operation Exit and My Brother's Keeper. The BPD has strong partnerships and year-round district activities with residents through Coffee with A Cop, National Night Out, youth and police dialogues, teen police academy, flashlight walks, Shop with a Cop, and more.

"Our community is a caring one, one who seeks the best for its children, but caring for our youth comes with many responsibilities - not only from our families but through neighborhood partnerships and person to person interactions," said Candice D. Gartley, executive director All Dorchester Sports and Leadership. "All Dorchester Sports and Leadership sees their role in the community not only as a place to provide athletic activities and academic opportunities but also as a place for children to feel safe and cared for near their homes. With the City's help and the Mayor's steadfast commitment of these grant dollars to organizations such as ADSL, we will continue to build and create more opportunities for youth and young adults in our organization and our city."

"I was thrilled to make the Youth Development Fund my initial budget ask in my first term and am delighted to partner with Mayor Walsh to support the Fund and Shannon Grant to help dozens of programs expand their capacity to serve, empower, and educate our young people," said City Council President Andrea Campbell. "The jobs, skills, and

relationships young people build through these programs are critical to breaking cycles of inequity, especially for young people of color, and ensuring they reach their God-given potentials."

A full list of recipients for the Youth Development Fund grants are as follows, with each recipient receiving a \$25,000 grant:

- All Dorchester Sports & Leadership - Educational Enrichment Programs
- BalletRox - BalletRox
- Boston Scores - Leadership in Action
- Center for Teen Empowerment - Teen Empowerment Boston
- Crossroads - Crossroads C5 Leaders
- Dorchester Youth Collaborative - Focus and Finish After School Program
- Friends of the Children-Boston - Long-Term, Professional Mentoring for the Highest-Risk Girls/Young Women
- Madison Park Development Corporation - Soheil Turner Youth Leadership Institute- After School and Summer Youth Employment Programs
- More Than Words - Youth Development Job Training for System-Involved Youth
- Playworks New England - Playworks Junior Coach Leadership Program
- Project RIGHT, Inc. - Grove Hall Youth Outreach Connection
- Rehearsal for Life, Inc. - Urban Improv
- Roca, Inc. - Roca's East Boston Central American Youth Initiative
- Roxbury Youthworks, Inc. - Gaining Independence for Tomorrow (GIFT)
- Shooting Touch - Getting Girls in the Game (G3)
- Sociedad Latina - STEAM Team
- Sportsmen's Tennis & Enrichment Center - HEY Sister
- Teen Center at St. Peter's, Catholic Charities of Boston - Teen Center at St. Peter's, Focus Groups for Middle School Girls
- Thompson Island Outward Bound Education Center - Connections
- ZUMIX - ZUMIX Creative Youth Development Programs



# St. Peter Academy, A Family Oriented Learning Community

By Lisa Gilbert

“Hi Lucas’ dad,” shouted four-year old Pre-K student, Lucah, out of his car window as it approached the school building. He was referencing the father of one of our first-grade students, who obligingly said hello back, although he didn’t know Lucah from any other Pre-K student at St. Peter Academy. Lucah is our resident greeter, not unlike those one sees at Walmart entrances who seem to spot you before you spot them. The difference is that Lucah knows names; Walmart greeters typically don’t.

The thing is that a Pre-K four-year old student “should” not know the names of people in the building. For one thing, the Pre-K classroom is in a completely separate area of the building from the elementary classrooms and there is not much overlap between them. There is the occa-

sional whole school event, but other than that there is only the off-chance that a Pre-K student would catch a glimpse of other people in the building in passing. Further, and more to the point, the recognition of other people outside of their little world is not on the radar for most four-year olds. By definition, four-year old children tend to be egocentric. They may be beginning to come out of their self-absorption by this age, but they are still very much concerned with the people and surroundings that they interact with on a regular basis and not much more. It’s highly unusual for a child so young to be so outwardly aware.

And then there’s Lucah. To my surprise one morning as I was making my way through the community room, Lucah exclaimed across the room, “Hi, Mrs. Gilbert.” I turned to see an animated young child, wildly waving his arms and smiling at me. At that point so early in the school year, I was still learning the names of children, so rather than make an attempt at it, I went with the tried and true, avoiding the use of an assigned name. “Good morning, sweetie,” I said. As time has gone on, I’ve heard Lucah greet many people

throughout the school building. It’s as if he has taken home a school yearbook and studied it to associate names and faces (like I’ve been known to do when I’m new at a school).

As extraordinary as Lucah’s talent is in identifying people, it gave me pause to reflect on our Vision Statement for our school. We state that “St. Peter Academy is a family oriented, forward thinking learning community providing academic excellence while educating the whole child.” In sixth grade at the Willett School in Norwood, MA, I learned to diagram sentences- thank you Mr. Ainsworth. Day after day we dissected simple and complex sentences with the precision of surgeons; subjects, predicates, prepositional phrases, etc. It’s a skill that never left me and one that probably helped me to become a writer. I understand language and how to use it. It’s not surprising, then, that I would look at our school’s Vision Statement and break it down from the complex to the simple. Let’s look at the first part of that statement; “We are a family oriented, forward thinking learning community...” Without realizing it, our little Lucah is living out our

vision- he is one of our young community members. He is living (and learning) within this school community with the familiarity of family. That’s a beautiful thing.

On the day before Thanksgiving, we put our Vision Statement into reality as we hosted our annual school-wide Thanksgiving Feast, held in our community room. Parents, teachers, and school board members brought food to share in buffet fashion. Among the traditional offerings of turkey, stuffing, and mashed potatoes we also had spaghetti and pot stickers. It was a multi-cultural banquet. Parents accompanied their children, along with some grandparents who were visiting for the holiday. Our youngest students, the fifteen-month old toddlers, wandered in briefly before going down for their naps. The fourth and fifth grade students enjoyed a game of soccer on the playground after clearing their plates. Back in the community room, excited children jumped, hopped, and skipped around as the adults socialized. It was a true community event. And, yes, Lucah was there, greeting everyone by name, making everyone feel at home. And it was good.





# Plastic Shopping Bag Ban Begins December 14th

## *What You Should Know*

Shoppers get ready. As of December 14th, the City of Boston will add itself to the list of nearly 60 other cities and towns across Massachusetts that prohibit large businesses from passing out single use plastic bags less than 3 millimeters thick. This law was introduced by Jamaica Plain Boston City Councilor Matt O'Malley and unanimously passed last year by the Boston City Council body and signed by Boston Mayor Marty Walsh. So the question being asked as the date of the ban approaches is 'What does this mean for shoppers?'

What it looks like it will mean is that people can of course bring their own bags no matter what they are made of. But in many towns that already have such a ban have done, they can carry their purchases home in paper bags provided by these businesses. There could be a charge estimated at around 5 cents per bag and many businesses will have stronger, sturdier reusable bags for sale, as well.

The reaction to the coming ban is being cheered by some yet opposed by others. The stated reason for the ban and supported by those in favor is to reduce litter and provide environmentally friendly options, protect the marine environment and water ways and reduce green house gas emissions, and solid waste and promote the use of reusable bags by retail establishments located in the city according to Boston city environmental officials. Those opposed to the bag ban give as their reasons worries about paper bags unable to support heavy or damp items like gallons of milk, most packages of raw meat which could potentially contaminate other groceries and other bulky items; this according to the publication called 'The Patch'.

Others simply oppose it on principle, stating they feel government continues to put too many restrictions on citizens. But support the ban or not, it is scheduled to take effect on schedule on the 14th of December and businesses who fail to comply or don't follow proper procedure will be subject to fines ranging from \$50 for the first offense and \$100 for every violation after that and that could be just the beginning.

So prepare yourselves shoppers. If you've been saving loads of those thin plastic bags to use as trash can liners in your home, you now have another use for them. Or you may want to show up to 'Stop and Shop' and Star Market/Shaws to impress with your own special customized canvas bags designed with personal messages or art work for each holiday. However you choose to prepare, shopping will be a bit different from here on in at least for the foreseeable future.

# Kickoff for Kids

By Allison Baker

The 2nd Annual Kickoff for Kids was a huge success. Thank you to all of the volunteers, players, sponsors and fans who made all of this possible. A special thank you to all of the refs, Freddy Ahern, and Sean Connor - who volunteered their time to help make the games run smoothly.

As you all know, this year the tournament was

in Memory of young Colin McGrath. The funds we raised will be donated to local nonprofits in South Boston for holiday presents. Each donation for toys will be made in Colin's memory. A portion of our funds will also be given to the Colin Joy Project.

The Kickoff for Kids committee includes Allison Baker, Jacqueline Beggan, Christine and Barbara Kelly, Jaelyn Kenneally, Paula, Robert and

Julia Casper, Joyce Welch, Caroline Baker and Cathy Carter. Also Betty Dillon and Kaileigh Beggan who were the photographers!

The funds we raised are going to make so many children happy this holiday season. You have no idea how much all of this means to me. I can't thank everyone enough! Special thanks to the Donny Higgins Fund for being our biggest sponsor. See you all next year at the 3rd Annual Kickoff for Kids. Congrats to the Champs!





# ‘Mayor of Southie’ Contest is Back

*It Should be a Fun Campaign*

SBT Staff Report



One, almost forgotten but now it's back. This statement refers to the Mayor of Southie campaign that for several years provided a fun and interesting way to raise funds to help pay for the annual St. Patrick's Day/Evacuation Day Parade.

In years past the Mayor of South Boston campaign brought forth many hard working and often colorful candidates who took their role as fundraisers very seriously. Granted, they didn't always act in a serious manner while campaigning and perhaps even after elected but then that were part of the fun. This is supposed to be a festive event and that it has always been.

The following is a statement that appears on the South Boston Allied War Veterans Council which of course sponsors the parade, in regard to the upcoming Mayor of Southie contest.

“The South Boston St. Patrick's

Day/Evacuation Day parade is an event run and funded by the community. The ‘Mayor of Southie’ initiative has long been a tradition of the parade and provides a fun and unique way to give members of the South Boston community an opportunity to participate in the parade directly and be recognized for it, while working to help raise the funds necessary to hold the parade. The various spirited campaigns in the neighborhood also provide a great way to get the community excited for the parade to come. It has been several years since the South Boston Allied War Veterans Council has included the ‘Mayor of Southie’ initiative as part of the parade, but for the 2019 event, the mayoral race is back! Check back soon to see who the mayoral candidates are.”

To get a complete list of the rules to enter the campaign, you can log onto the following website:

[www.southbostonparade.org/mayor-of-southie](http://www.southbostonparade.org/mayor-of-southie)

Now the position of Mayor does come with some perks. The winner of the contest will be the center of attention by local media both social and traditional, tickets to banquets, a prominent position in the parade itself. In fact in years past, the Mayor of Southie led the parade itself. Special ceremonial garb that you may or may not find stylish – that is of course a matter of personal taste - and a place of honor at the numerous events during the days and weeks leading up to the big day itself. In short, this is considered by many to be a very prestigious position to hold. It has become a classic civic engagement and community appreciation escapade for the adventurous. What could be better.

So for those who have always dreamed of a political career, why not throw your hat into the ring and be part of the fun? It's all for a good cause.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2ND, STARTING AT 12!

## MAYOR WALSH'S ANNUAL TREE LIGHTING!

MUSIC, PONIES, BALLOON ANIMALS, REFRESHMENTS AND MORE!

MEDAL OF HONOR (M ST.) PARK



## 6th Annual Hat and Glove Drive

Let's help those less fortunate stay warm, this winter. Please join Letter Carrier Jill McDonough and The South Boston Post Office set a new personal collection record, providing this much needed Winter apparel for The South Boston Neighborhood House aka The Ollie!

Your donation of any new hats, gloves or mittens will help our youth to get through the cold weather season a little easier. Look for the box located in the lobby at the South Boston Post Office, 444 East Third Street. If you are unable to drop at the Post Office, Jill is willing to pick up your donation directly from you. To contact Jill please call 617-590-5239.

Flaherty/Flynn continued from p.5

been put into the South Boston Waterfront Sustainable Transportation Plan, this hearing is an opportunity for us to hear from stakeholders and to have a conversation about the work that is being done to meet rapidly changing transportation needs of our neighborhood. Specifically, we would like to address conflict points among pedestrians, motorists and cyclists and explore forward thinking transportation solutions for the area.”

“With unprecedented commercial and residential growth at the South Boston Waterfront, the area in no way resembles its appearance even five or ten years ago. We're thankful for growth in our city, but with this substantial development comes additional vehicles, congestion and public safety concerns for our pedestrians, motorists and cyclists,” said Flynn. “We need to see what the community process looks like for our neighbors in Fort Point and the South Boston Waterfront so that they can weigh in with their concerns, get an update of where things stand currently and see what the timeline for the project will be.”





*This week, Danny gave "Pic's Picks" for Week 13 in the NFL:*

For the first time since Week 3, no team will have a bye in Week 13, giving me 14 games to choose from on Sunday, as part of the "PodcastOne Sportsnet Challenge."

I went 3-2 in Week 12, bringing my record on the season to 40-20 with the money line.

There's only five weeks left in the regular season, so let's finish strong. Here are my picks for Week 13:

**CAROLINA PANTHERS over Tampa Bay Buccaneers**

-This will be the third straight week that I'm picking the Panthers to win. Hopefully it's not the third straight week that I get it wrong. Carolina has lost three straight games — to Pittsburgh, Detroit, and Seattle. I picked them to beat Detroit and Seattle, and they couldn't get the job done. So now, here I am, picking the 6-5 Panthers to snap that three-game losing skid and handle their business against a 4-7 Buccaneers team that they've already beaten back in Week 9, which was actually Carolina's last win. Tampa Bay is coming off a win over the San Francisco 49ers, but the Buccaneers still have the second-worst defense in the NFL, allowing 31 points per game. Carolina can still realistically make the

playoffs as a Wild Card team in the NFC, so this is a must-win game in a desperate situation. The Panthers are a 4-point favorite in Tampa Bay Sunday at 1 p.m. They can't afford to lose this one. And they won't. Give me Carolina.

**LOS ANGELES RAMS over Detroit Lions**

-The 10-1 Rams are tied with the New Orleans Saints for the best record in the league. Unfortunately for LA, New Orleans won their only meeting of the regular season, giving the Saints the head-to-head tiebreaker and the No. 1 seed in the NFC. If the playoffs began after Week 12, the Rams would be the No. 2 seed. Their schedule is much easier than the Saints' schedule though, as the Rams only face one team that's currently above .500 in their final five games. The 4-7 Lions shouldn't be much of a challenge for these Rams, who are coming off the bye. But it is in Detroit Sunday at 1, so there's always a chance for a backdoor beat if you take LA as a 10-point favorite. I'm just taking the Rams to win the game, as they should against a Lions defense that allows 26 points per game. I'll take the Rams to win their third straight.

**KANSAS CITY CHIEFS over Oakland Raiders**

-Like the Rams, the Chiefs are

also coming off the bye. Kansas City is 9-2, and their only two losses came on the road. But the 9-2 Chiefs won't lose in Oakland Sunday at 4:05. The Raiders are 2-9 and have made it very clear that the only thing they are playing for this season is the No. 1 overall pick in the 2019 NFL Draft. And if the season ended today, that's exactly what Oakland would get. The Chiefs? They're still trying to clinch the AFC West, and more importantly, the No. 1 seed in the AFC. As crazy as it sounds, neither of those two things are guaranteed, with five weeks remaining in the regular season. They still have the 8-3 Chargers on their tail in the West, and the 8-3 Patriots breathing down their neck in the AFC. So this is certainly not a game that Kansas City can afford to lose. The Chiefs are a 15-point favorite, and they should win by 20. But at the very least, I don't see how they lose to the Raiders. Give me Kansas City all day.

**PITTSBURGH STEELERS over Los Angeles Chargers**

-This game was flexed into the Sunday Night Football game of the week of NBC, because it's basically a playoff game for both teams. If the playoffs began

today, the No. 4 seed Steelers at 7-3-1 would actually be hosting the No. 5 seed Chargers at 8-3 in the Wild Card round. This game on Sunday night is in Pittsburgh, and the Steelers are a 3.5-point favorite after losing in Denver in Week 12. The Chargers are coming off a win over the lowly Arizona Cardinals in Week 12, but star running back Melvin Gordon suffered an MCL injury that will force him to miss a few games. I'd expect Pittsburgh to bounce back at home, regardless. But with Gordon out, it will make the Steelers' job a little easier. I'm taking Pittsburgh to pick up their eighth win of the season on Sunday night.

**LOCK OF THE WEEK: HOUSTON TEXANS over Cleveland Browns**

-The 4-6-1 Browns are feeling pretty good about themselves after winning two straight, but I expect the 8-3 Texans to bring Baker Mayfield back down to Earth on Sunday at 1 in Houston. The Texans have won eight straight and are not going to be slowed down by a Cleveland team that has the 29th ranked pass defense in the NFL. Houston has a top-five defense that allows just 20 points per game, and I expect these Texans — a 6-point favorite — to punch the Browns right in the mouth. Make it nine straight for Houston.

*Listen to the entire conversation at PodcastOne. Also available on iTunes, Spotify, and dannypicard.com. Subscribe to Danny's YouTube channel at youtube.com/dannypicard.*

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# Massport Record-Breaking 2018 Cruise Season Celebrated

*Pat Moscaritolo  
honored for his  
years of service*



**news release**

Leadership from the Massachusetts Port Authority (Massport) joined elected officials and local community members to celebrate Flynn Cruiseport Boston's record-breaking 2018 cruise season and recognize President and CEO of the Greater Boston Convention and Visitors Bureau (GBCVB) Pat Moscaritolo for his contributions to the cruise industry over the years. Massport officials also announced the 6th millionth passengers to go through Flynn Cruiseport, who are Boston residents that will be departing on the Norwegian Dawn to San Juan.

Massport and elected officials recognized GBCVB President and CEO Pat Moscaritolo for his efforts in promoting the Massachusetts tourism industry as he prepares to leave the organization in early 2019. Since 1991, Pat Moscaritolo has been the President and Chief Executive Officer of the GBCVB, a primary marketing and visitor service organization that leads the development of convention and tourism business for Greater Boston and today represents more than 1,200 businesses throughout New England. Prior to joining the GBCVB, Moscaritolo served as the Deputy Executive Director of Massport and as the Director of Logan Airport. During his tenure, Logan Airport won national awards for its "Airports Are for People, Too" customer service initiatives.

Elected officials helped celebrate the event and thanked both Massport CEO Tom Glynn and Moscaritolo for their work to improve the port over the years.

Ambassador and former Mayor Ray Flynn spoke about the revitalization of the Port of Boston. "Tom you revived this port to be what it once was way back during the hay day. It's one of the most vibrant ports in America and we owe you and Pat for your hard work."

"It was telling from the beginning that Tom had a real keen hand and commitment to the working port of Boston in a way that we hadn't seen," State Senator Nick Collins said. "Pat, time and time again has been an advocate and a successful supporter of the blue-collar job sector in Boston. Hotel workers, longshoremen, waiters, chefs, bartenders, valets, the list goes on and they all and we all owe Pat a debt of gratitude."

"I'd like to applaud Massport and salute my colleagues for investing in the working port that creates blue collar jobs and is an economic engine for not only Boston and Commonwealth, but the northeast region," State Representative David Biele said. "I'd also like to congratulate Pat for being at the forefront of tourism here at the port."

Several elected officials, including City Councilor Ed Flynn, also acknowledged the hard work done every day by members of the International Longshoremen's Association (ILA).

"Boston continues to draw more cruise passengers as both a port of call and a starting point for longer journeys to the North, Caribbean and beyond, and men and women employed at the Cruiseport recognize the significant impact tourism has on the Commonwealth and the country as a whole," said Massport CEO Thomas P. Glynn. "I would like to thank my friend Pat Moscaritolo for his dedication to making Boston the hub it is today and helping us reach this milestone."

"Thanks to Massport's Flynn Cruiseport Boston efforts our visitor industry has seen dramatic and record setting growth in business

activity this cruise season," said Pat Moscaritolo, President and CEO of the Greater Boston Convention and Visitors Bureau. "With over 150 cruise ships delivering 400,000 visitors to Boston's shores, business has boomed for our attractions, museums, restaurants and retailers. Our visitor season now extends into November because of Flynn Cruiseport Boston's schedule of ships calling on Boston. As strong as this season has been, we are all excited by Massport's expansion plans and 21st century upgrades to the Black Falcon terminal and what that will mean for our visitor industry and visitor economy."

During the 2018 cruise season, Flynn Cruiseport Boston welcomed a record 390,696 visitors to Boston. Cruise visitors arrived to Boston from April through November via a record 152 ship calls from 33 vessels representing 20 different international cruise lines. The Cruiseport saw an increase from last year's 388,222 passengers and 150 calls from 35 vessels.

Four ships made their maiden or first-time call to Boston in 2018: Hurtigruten's MS Fram, Noble Caledonia's Hebridean Sky, Windstar's Star Pride, and Celebrity Cruises' Celebrity Silhouette. Current trends in cruising are for overnight port calls, allowing guests the opportunity to enjoy the destination for an extended amount of time. In 2018, Flynn Cruiseport Boston welcomed 12 ships to overnight at the terminal and will continue this trend into the future.

Massport is delighted to announce some exciting changes out of Boston throughout the 2019 cruise season. Norwegian Cruise Line will be changing their weekly ship sailing from Boston to Bermuda. The Norwegian Dawn will be replaced by the Norwegian Gem, offering loyal NCL clientele a new experience for their annual getaway out of Boston. Norwegian will also be offering three

Caribbean itineraries on the Gem, departing March 29, October 25, and November 8.

"The Port of Boston is a popular cruise destination attracting visitors from around the world to the rich history of our region, our championship sports teams, award-winning restaurants, and beautiful sights and we continue to watch Boston grow as an embarkation port and destination port of call for many cruise lines," said Massport's Port Director, Lisa Wieland. "I would also like to thank Pat Moscaritolo for his leadership and commitment to making Boston a top tourist destination and bustling center of commerce."

Next season passengers will be transported to new and exciting destinations offered by three different cruise lines. Ponant's Le Champlain will cruise to Puerto Morelos, Mexico on October 26th. Royal Caribbean's Serenade of the Seas will embark to the Southern Caribbean islands on October 27th. Holland America will once again offer their Voyage of the Vikings on the Zuiderdam, departing on July 30th and stopping in places such as Greenland, Iceland, Norway, and the Netherlands. Massport will also continue to offer the weekly escapes to Bermuda and the beautiful fall itineraries through Canada/New England.

Boston is one of America's oldest cities and a 21st century powerhouse. Visit revolutionary landmarks along the Freedom Trail, stroll through Boston Common to Faneuil Hall or tour Fenway Park, the oldest ballpark in Major League Baseball. Neighborhoods such as the North End, Beacon Hill and the Back Bay offer unique flavors, sights and sounds for every interest. Venture across the Charles River to Cambridge and enjoy the iconic grounds of Harvard University and MIT. Boston is a city where tradition and innovation blend to create a unique cosmopolitan destination.