

South Boston TODAY

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January 31, 2019: Vol.7 Issue 4

SERVING SOUTH BOSTONIANS AROUND THE GLOBE



If You Didn't Pay Attention, Don't Complain

Nearly 90 applications were submitted to the Community Preservation Committee of Boston, which projects annual funding of \$20 Million, for the round of funding that had a September 2018 submission date.

Of the 90, South Boston submitted a grand total of ONE. It is an Open Space project at Medal Of Honor Park, which will continue the historic model black iron fence on west and east sides of park and add six new benches along with backs to those currently there, most of which are backless and unsuitable for

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EDITORIAL

Grab a Broom, Help Keep our Streets Clean

Most South Bostonians are conscientious about keeping up the appearance of the neighborhood. Though as we all know, this community isn't one with many large lawns and acres of land to tend to. But most are particular about keeping the area, including sidewalks and curb gutters free from litter. But on occasion, especially in winter when mounds of snow and ice can cover the pavement, picking up debris, especially after barrel collection day, can be neglected. The thought is that we'll get to it once the snow melts. We can all bear

witness what the town looks like when all the snow does melt – it's pretty bad.

The reason for today's editorial topic is to respond to requests by some of our readers and to echo growing complaints that the streets in the neighborhood are becoming an embarrassment in several locations; some have used the term 'filthy' and a quick tour of the community confirms this. So here are some suggestions that those who have contacted us here at SBT have asked us to relay to all.

If you are physically able to sweep in front of your home and pick up trash left

by some unthinking individuals prone to littering, please do it. It doesn't take long. As was stated, the areas in front of most homes are not that big. If you know of a neighbor or two who are not physically capable of sweeping up, why not take a few minutes, lend a hand and do it for them, especially after trash collection day. They would appreciate it.

Keeping our streets clean is something we can all agree on and city workers can't be everywhere, every day, to do it for us. Everyone pitching in to help is what it will take, and it will help add to neighborhood pride.



"February brings the rain and thaws the frozen lake again" - Sara Coleridge (We'll wait and see. SBT)

If You Didn't Pay Attention...
continued from front page

elderly with a cost of \$350,000. The CPA Program. There will be a late February City Council scheduled for a hearing and approval of the final slate.

The Committee's project review date is Monday evening, February 11th from 6-8pm at 26 Court Street, Boston 02108. This is the link to the current submissions under review –

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/10KZKnW_97xsx8hvauoVVYSCr5p2CyHaOxk1RkdyhgBk/edit#gid=745413543

According to the City's website (<https://www.boston.gov/community-preservation>), the Community Preservation Committee and staff will take a short break after the current funding consideration. The next round of funding will

likely be announced in late Spring or Summer 2019 and follow the same schedule as the current round.

Helpful Guidelines:

Affordable Housing - all applicants are required to complete Department of Neighborhood Development (DND) housing proposal materials. You can find them posted on the DND webpages

Historic Preservation - the Community Preservation Committee hopes to see a commitment to ongoing stewardship of a historic resource. This includes a "Conditions Assessment" or capital master plan, as well as a history of fundraising and upkeep. The City of Boston must follow the state's "Anti-Aid" law which means that any privately-owned historic resource must have public use and access.

Parks & Open Space - if your project is on public land, please make sure you have been in contact with the agency responsible for care and maintenance to discuss project implementation and oversight before you apply. Contact us if you need help connecting to the appropriate people.

Design and Planning - the Committee prefers applications that include construction to complete a project. They don't want to fund a design that will not be implemented in the short-term.

The application will change before the next round of funding, but you can get a general idea from the current materials and learn more at www.boston.gov/cpa

There are a number of Open Space & Public Beautification Funding Sources that include

the following:

Love Your Block - deadline March 1, 2019

Mini grants for beautification and neighborhood clean ups from Boston's Office of Civic Engagement.

Edward Ingersoll Browne Fund - deadline March 15, 2019

To create works of "public utility and beauty, for the use and enjoyment of the inhabitants of the City of Boston."

George B. Henderson Foundation - deadlines May 10 and October 4, 2019

Grants to enhance the physical appearance of the City of Boston including parks, city streets, buildings, monuments, architecture, and sculpture.

Smith Family Foundation - deadline February 7 for small capital grants; letter of intent needed for mid-size grants.

Grants to effect perma-

nent positive change in the lives of the individuals and families in economically disadvantaged communities of Greater Boston.

Mass Cultural Facilities Fund - annual deadline usually in January. Supports capital projects that promote cultural tourism; expand access and education in the arts, humanities, and sciences; and improve the quality of life in cities and towns across the Commonwealth.

Solomon Foundation - contact them to learn more: 781-431-1440. Works to significantly improve Boston's major parks and greenways.

Pay Attention South Boston. At the very least, send the committee a supportive letter for the current Medal of Honor Park submission or attend the February 11 meeting.

SouthBostonTODAY
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The Information Center



News Media Toddlers and MAGA Hats

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY

John Ciccone

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

We'll briefly lead with a comment about the news media once again. Last week, there was yet another display of how slanted, biased and even childish the leftwing/mainstream media has become, as they continue to melt down about the idea of Donald Trump occupying the White House. It's almost comical.

For more than three weeks during the partial government shutdown, the press was all over President Trump calling him heartless, cold, evil, mean, stubborn and pretty much an all-around horrible person, because THEY said, he refused to compromise with Democrats and open up the 25% of the government that was shut down. It was nonstop, 24/7 and relentless. So, when the President finally did agree, on his own, not because of media pressure to sign a 'temporary' agreement to reopen, the media's response, to summarize it and translate it was 'HA HA, Trump caved, Pelosi won!! See? He backed down and turned on his supporters.'

The press was ecstatic and was strutting around for days after the signing and still are. They acted like little children, who believed they got their way after taking tantrums, stomping their feet and making crying demands, and now it was time to gloat and stick their tongues out at the Republicans and of course call everyone a racist just for good measure.

The media never learns and they always under estimate this President. He has several options and he stated clearly that, if there is no agreement in three weeks on money to finish building a wall to keep the drugs, the dealers, the gangs, the human traffickers and yes, terrorists from coming in from the Mexican side, he will use those options and get that needed money. As President, it's his primary job to do all in his

power to keep Americans safe and securing the border, including building a wall, is a major part of accomplishing that goal. The opposition, by their actions, seems to have no problem with the crime that comes with open borders, especially if they think there is a chance to get new voters for their side.

I consider myself blessed to have so many good friends; I cherish them all. A few of those friends are in favor of abortion. On this we will continue to disagree. But even my pro-abortion friends, male and female, all of them, were shocked and disgusted, when it was shown on the news last week, New York's Democrat Governor Cuomo signing a bill and making it law in that State to be able to abort a baby not just in the 3rd trimester of a pregnancy but right up until birth. And while it was being signed, the liberal activists in the background were wildly applauding him for doing this.

The question being asked is what kind of monsters are these? These same people are screaming about blocking people from coming over the border illegally, they say it is not moral to do so, yet they favor killing a child even a second before its birth? As outraged Americans are saying: 'In New York, they try to ban people from buying large sodas, you can't give the death penalty to convicted murderers, but a law that makes killing a child, as its about to be born, is legal is something to celebrate? Can it get any sicker? And what kind of people are Democrat voters electing in that state?'

Myself and a few friends bought the red MAGA (Make America Great Again) hats and recently went to New Hampshire. We made it a point to wear them when we were among large groups of people to see what the reaction would be since Hollywood ac-

tresses and media types demanded that Americans stop wearing them. To our surprise, the response was overwhelmingly positive. We wore them in stores, at a ski mountain and to other crowded winter activities. Here is the reaction, the count that I got for myself. Only 3 eye rolls, but several dozen thumbs up signs and a lot of handshakes. One woman, who was working a Lowe's, took her break and followed me out to the parking lot and asked if she could buy my hat – she offered me \$20, I only paid \$10. I thanked her and po-

lately refused but told her where she could order one online. A Korean War vet in a wheel chair at a McDonalds asked where he could get one for himself and his wife. I thanked him for his service and gave him mine, one of the people with me gave him his to give to his wife. We've since ordered new ones. The same overwhelmingly positive response was reported by my buddies. It was all a pleasant surprise, but in a way, a tiny bit of a letdown as well. We were anticipating at least a couple of confrontations. Oh well.

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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.

You are now entering Boston: That will be \$5, please

Mayor Marty Walsh is putting distance between himself and a new Carbon Free Boston Working Group recommendation calling for a \$5 “congestion fee” to drive into downtown Boston, reports the Herald’s Jonathan Ng and Brooks Sutherland.

One can argue over the five-dollar figure. But our hunch is that some sort of downtown congestion fee will be needed -- and not congestion fees on merely a few roadways entering the city, i.e. higher tolls for Pike and Tobin drivers (again) while letting I-93 and Route 2 motorists etc. skate free without paying any tolls (again).

Reports: Related Beal poised to buy prime Gillette parcel along Fort Point Channel

The BBJ’s Catherine Carlock (pay wall) and the Globe’s Tim Logan report that Related Beal is in line to purchase a coveted waterfront Gil-

lette parcel along Boston’s Fort Point Channel, a move that could spur a wave of yet more development in the area. The immediate question is how much Related Beal might end up paying for the 6.5 acres. The BBJ bandies about figures ranging from \$216 million to \$300 million.

Kenmore Square’s latest ‘renaissance’ ...

In other development news: There’s a running joke within business-journalism circles about how certain areas of Greater Boston seem to always be on the cusp of a “renaissance” that never quite arrives, such as Revere Beach, Chelsea, etc. One of them is Kenmore Square, which, by our count, has seen about four “renaissances” on the horizon over the years – and the fifth may be on the way. The Globe’s Tim Logan has the details on a developer’s plan for a major new hotel tower that could transform traffic patterns in the congested area.

Quick question: Wasn’t the relatively recent land/streetscaping around the T station in Kenmore Square supposed to address some of these traffic concerns?

Lawmakers push for rail service to shuttle passengers back home from late-night concerts and Sox games

From Mary Whitfill at Wicked Local: “Local lawmakers are pushing for expanded commuter rail hours along the Kingston/Plymouth, Greenbush and Middleboro/Lakeville lines, hoping to see a train run late enough to shuttle residents back from late-night concerts, Red Sox games and other Boston activities. Eleven local state senators and representatives recently signed a letter addressed to Joseph Aiello, chair of the MBTA’s fiscal management and control board, supporting the proposal.”

House progressives and others mobilize to battle DeLeo over rules

It’s not a coup attempt. More

like a Magna Carta moment. From Andy Metzger and Bruce Mohl at CommonWealth magazine: “The Massachusetts House on Wednesday is expected to vote on the rules it will operate under the next two years, but don’t expect the usual ho-hum debate. A group of progressive dissenters are planning to use the rules to challenge the House’s power structure, a Republican is calling for term limits and the right for legislative aides to unionize, and the speaker’s team is making some modifications.” The Globe’s Matt Stout has more on the rules fight.

Pundit: Rep. McMurtry the ‘victim of a progressive hit job’

Speaking of those evil rabble-rousing progressives, political columnist Peter Lucas at the Lowell Sun is blasting away at progressive lawmakers and the Boston Globe, saying it’s “plausible” that Rep. Paul McMurtry was “set up” when he was accused of sexual misbehavior and it’s also “plausible” it was part of an attempt to weaken House Speaker Robert DeLeo.

Baker to visit mosque, the first by a

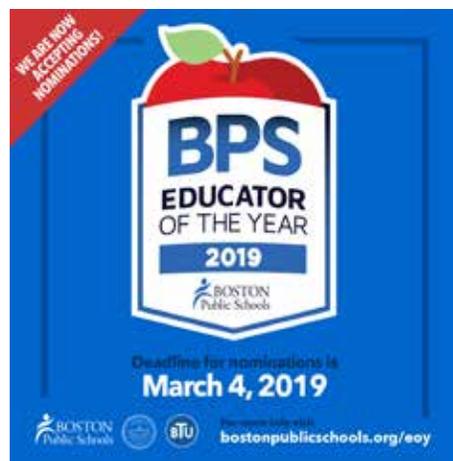
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Nominations Now Open for BPS Educator of the Year Awards 2019

Annual Distinction Recognizes Exemplary Boston Public Schools Educators



The Boston Public Schools (BPS), City of Boston, and the Boston Teachers Union (BTU) are pleased to announce that nominations are now being accepted for the 2019 Boston Educator of the Year Awards. The Educator of the



Year Awards recognize exemplary educators who go above and beyond to positively influence the lives of BPS students.

“We have so many amazing educators throughout the city, working to improve lives and provide a positive influence for students of the Boston Public Schools,” said Mayor Martin J. Walsh. “The Educator of the Year Awards offers the City an opportunity to showcase the admirable efforts of those teachers who work hard every day to make a lasting impact on our students.”

All BPS stakeholders, including teachers, administrators, paraprofessionals, school staff, students, families, community members, and partners, are invited and encouraged to nominate exceptional educators to honor their devotion to their work.

“Every year I look forward to seeing the Educator of the Year Award nominations and learning more about the incredible work happening in our BPS classrooms,” said Boston School Committee Chairperson Michael Loconto. “It’s essential that we take the time to recognize our great educators and the dedication they bring to their work each and every day.”

The nomination period is now open. Please visit www.bostonpublicschools.org/eoy to nominate an educator. Groups that wish to support the nomination of one educator or co-teaching pair are encouraged to compile all submissions and complete one submission form. Nominations are subject to review, approval, and confirmation by the BTU and

the BPS Office of Human Capital. All submissions must be received by March 4, 2019.

“BPS educators work tirelessly to improve educational outcomes for our youth, providing students with the resources and support necessary for future success,” said BPS Interim Superintendent Laura Perille. “I look forward to honoring our most passionate and devoted teachers, who are committed professionals and integral members of their school communities.”

“The Boston Teachers Union is always proud to support the incredible work of the Boston Public Schools teachers who tirelessly and skillfully educate and support the students of this district,” said BTU President Jessica Tang. “We are excited to learn about this year’s nominations and to once again celebrate educators who represent the very best of who we are and what we do.”

For more information and to submit a nomination, please visit www.bostonpublicschools.org/eoy.

SENATOR COLLINS PUSHES COMPREHENSIVE TRANSPORTATION AGENDA FOR SOUTH BOSTON

Bills address cut-through traffic, bus service, short- and long-term investments



With the legislative bill filing deadline on Friday the 18th, Senator

Collins filed a slew of bills aimed at improving transportation in the city of Boston and in the region. The bills address multi-modal transit, pedestrian safety, impacts of new developments on public transportation, equity and access to rapid transit, creating long term revenues to make lasting improvements on the MBTA without raising fares, and simply getting people to work on time.

SD. 2181 would create a commission tasked with examining all modes of transportation on Day Blvd. including speed limits, sidewalks and pedestrian amenities, raised intersections, bus and public transit, signals, signage, traffic calming measures, multi-modal transit, and ride sharing and commercial uses.

“As we have seen for years, Day Blvd. attracts cut through commuter traffic that is dangerous for everyone involved,” said

Senator Nick Collins. “This bill is extremely important to continue bringing all agencies and groups to the table in a sustainable way to make recommendations that will improve safety and enjoyment of this DCR parkway.”

SD. 2191 would mandate the MBTA run supplemental bus service from City Point to South Station with limited stops in order to bypass the traffic on Summer Street between L and D streets. “Elected officials and commuters have been crying out for more reliable transportation to and from work,” said Senator Collins. “This bill will require that the MBTA respond to that need, and ensure bus service that is more rapid, more reliable, and therefore more accessible.”

SD. 2198 creates a task force to study the best use for MBTA properties in Boston in order to secure long term funding for improvements without raising fares. Senator Col-

lins has been pushing the MBTA for years to examine the potential for land and air-rights leases, both protecting the incoming new fleet of red line cars from the elements, and leveraging state assets to generate long-term revenue without burdening the residents who rely on the system to get to work. The MBTA is one of the biggest land owners in the city of Boston.

Other bills filed by Senator Collins include opening the use of a particular ramp to Silver Line usage to reduce trip times to Logan Airport, legislation allowing the City to levy small fees on TNCs in order to fund transportation improvements, and bill to protect pedestrians and drivers by automating enforcement of some traffic violations, including blocking “the box” in the middle of intersections. All bills will have public hearings, and the public is encouraged to come testify with their perspectives.

REP. BIELE FILES BILL TO MANDATE STATE APPROVAL OF EDISON PROPOSAL

Earlier this month, State Representative David Biele (D-Boston) filed legislation which would mandate state review and legislative approval before residential housing can be built at 776 Summer Street, the former Boston Edison Power Plant.

The Massachusetts Port Authority (Massport) currently holds a residential deed restriction which prevents housing from being built at the Boston Edison Power Plant, which abuts Conley Terminal. Massport, which operates Conley Terminal, negotiated the deed restriction in 2014 during planning of the Thomas Butler Freight Corridor, which connected Conley Terminal to Summer Street.

Rep. Biele’s bill, HD3913: An Act relating to public land use restrictions in the South Boston section of the City of Boston, would require analysis of the deed restriction’s fair market value by several legislative committees and the inspector general. Following review, the bill would also require two-thirds approval of the Massachusetts Legislature to lift Massport’s deed restriction.

“We are in uncharted territory because Massport has never held a

residential deed restriction” said Rep. Biele. “In recent years, the state and federal government have approved over \$450 million in investments for Conley Terminal, a vital economic engine for the Commonwealth and this region. This legislation will establish a clear and transparent process to help guide review of proposals at this location, while also protecting Conley Terminal and port operations.”

The bill will be assigned to a legislative committee for further review and is guaranteed a public hearing to discuss its merits.



Letter to the Editor

I would like to thank Brian Wallace for his recent article “The Places I Remember.”

Brian, I must say, you captured the heart and soul of West Broadway of our youth in such a vivid way that both my wife Charlene (originally from west 4th St.) and myself from F St., both felt like we were on a walking tour of our Southie! We laughed at the reference to Mrs. Gagin behind the counter at the Bway show and remember ordering a 55 cent banana split from Woolworth’s cafeteria. We still have a bedroom set we bought 50 years ago at Ellis Furniture and as kids were in an out of virtually every store mentioned in your article. Although in Florida now, our hearts still have a fond spot for our Hometown South Boston. *Thank you, Kevin and Charlene Walsh*

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sitting Massachusetts governor

From the Associated Press at WGBH: “Gov. Charlie Baker is planning to visit a Boston mosque. Organizers say the visit Friday to the Islamic Society of Boston Cultural Center — the largest mosque in New England — is the first by a sitting Republican Massachusetts governor. Organizers say Baker will sit among congregants for the sermon and observe the prayer, then speak briefly to the community.”

Lap dance Rx, Part II: An ex-stripper hired as a ‘sales manager’?

An update on that exotic lap dancer who was reportedly employed by Insys Therapeutics to convince docs to prescribe a potentially deadly fentanyl pain reliever to patients: She’s Sunrise Lee, an ex-stripper who served as a “sales manager” for Insys, as reported by Laurel Sweet at the Herald. One doc apparently couldn’t keep his hands-off Sunrise. And we repeat: Release the names of physicians allegedly partaking in these pathetic opioid-prescription schemes, please.

Billionaires Schultz and Bloomberg take shots at Warren’s ‘uber-mil-
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Councilors Wu and O'Malley File Local Wetlands Protection Ordinance

Legislation gives tools to reasonably regulate development near vulnerable areas and protect important natural resources



Boston City Councilor At-Large Michelle Wu and District City Councilor Matt O'Malley refiled an ordinance for Wednesday's City Council meeting aimed at strengthening the City's ability to fight climate change and reasonably regulate development. The Local Wetlands Protection Ordinance would empower the Boston Conservation Commission to require green infrastructure with new development, including protections for urban wetlands, which are an important natural resource to manage flooding and reduce urban heat island effect.

"Boston must take bolder, faster, more proactive steps to mitigate and manage our vulnerability to changing weather and intensifying storms," said the lead sponsor Councilor Wu. "Nearly every other coastal municipality in Massachusetts has already gone beyond the state baselines for protecting urban wetlands and natural resources, and we must do the same. These land resources are too valuable to lose to development—they're important not just for conservation, but to guard against severe flooding and

heat that disproportionately harm our most vulnerable residents and communities. This is an issue of social and environmental justice."

"It is imperative to codify preservation efforts for local wetlands in the City of Boston as a coastal municipality. As we address the impacts of global climate change, we must explore measures to ensure our urban environment landscape is preserved," said Councilor O'Malley, who is Chairman of the Environment, Sustainability and Parks Committee. "The ordinance will further the protections of wetlands, as well as the plants and wildlife that grow in them."

"The City of Boston Local Wetland Ordinance will be a key tool for mitigating climate change impacts and preserving critical wetland areas like the Belle Isle Marsh," said Magdalena Ayed, Executive Director of Harborkeepers. "The Belle Isle Marsh, the last remaining salt marsh in Metro Boston, suffered serious storm impacts in 2018 that were a warning sign of the need to protect these vital coastal resources that in turn not only protect the people and neighborhoods of Boston but also preserve critical animal and plant habitats that are being

wiped out all over the world. Establishing the City of Boston LWO is really a moot point. It has to get done."

"This is a great first step to addressing climate impacts in the City of Boston and CLF looks forward to ensuring that this measure complements the Mayor's Resilient Harbor Plan," said Deanna Moran, Director of Environmental Planning for the Conservation Law Foundation.

"During my career as a physician, preventive actions were much preferred over retrospective steps taken in response to illness. As climate change has adverse public health effects, proactive measures are required," said Bernard Ghitman, M.D., a Friends of Allandale member and a resident of the Springhouse Senior Living Community in Jamaica Plain. "The practical steps included in the Local Wetland Ordinance will provide great value to Boston residents in our common effort to address climate change. I am grateful for the leadership of Councilor Wu and Councilor O'Malley in introducing this measure."

"In the face of climate change and the critical need for Boston resiliency, it's astounding that the City does not

yet have a local wetlands ordinance," said Emily Norton, Charles River Watershed Association's Executive Director. "Wetlands, floodplains, marshes, coastal storm flowage areas, and riverbanks are natural sponges requiring the strongest possible protection."

"Inland natural resources like Roslindale Wetlands provide important flood protection benefits. Every neighborhood in Boston has natural areas that will benefit from the added protections provided by a Local Wetlands Ordinance. We commend Councilor Wu and Councilor O'Malley for advancing this important measure," said Deb Beatty Mel, a member of the Roslindale Wetlands Task Force.

"Wetlands and their protection along with flood protection are the front line of climate change action in Boston. The Commission and its critical wetland concerns and authority must be integrated into the front end of project development in concert with other municipal overviews and not relegated to an afterthought. A local wetlands protection ordinance must and can see that this happens as part of a comprehensive response to climate change. We need to better use the tools at hand," said Joe Orfant, City of Boston Conservation Commission Chair, 2016-2018.

Boston is currently one of only three coastal municipalities in the Commonwealth without a local wetlands protection ordinance. Boston has 209 wetlands areas distributed throughout the City, including areas in each City Council district. The legislation comes out of an initial hearing sponsored by Councilor Wu and chaired by Councilor O'Malley in August 2018 with representatives from advocacy groups and the City's Environment Department. This proposed ordinance will be assigned to the City Council's Committee on Government Operations for a hearing, and next steps.

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lionaire' tax plan

U.S. Sen. Elizabeth Warren is probably, or ought to be, loving this: Two male billionaires, Howard Schultz and Michael Bloomberg, both mulling runs for president, are taking shots at Warren's proposed "uber-millionaire tax" on

the wealthy – with Shultz calling it 'ridiculous' and Bloomberg comparing it to something you might see in Venezuela.

The Associated Press at the Herald and Talking Points Memo and the Globe's James Pindell have all the details, including Warren's almost gleeful counter-attacks.

Polls still aren't going Warren's way ...

Granted, it's early in the election cycle. But it's still surprising to see U.S. Sen. Elizabeth Warren, who most observers believe has had a good month since unofficially announcing she's running for president,

barely registering as a blip in the latest Washington Post-ABC News poll. Then again, other Dems can't break out of the single-digit category as well, it seems. Btw: The Herald's Brooks Sutherland has more, well, disappointing poll news for Warren out of Iowa.



MAYOR WALSH FILES ORDINANCE TO ENABLE SHARED MOBILITY SERVICES

Mayor Martin J. Walsh filed an ordinance establishing minimum safety standards for shared mobility businesses, such as e-scooter companies, and authorizing the Boston Transportation Department (BTD) to pilot and license

shared mobility companies that want to do business in Boston.

“Our streets and sidewalks are public resources, and we want to ensure that mobility options in our city are safe, reliable, and equitable,” said Mayor Walsh. “We’re committed to creating a strong transportation network by investing in both short and long-term projects that will create greater transportation access for all users of our city’s streets. This ordinance will help create a stronger, safer transportation network across Boston.”

The proposed ordinance would require shared mobility businesses, such as e-scooter companies, to have a license from the Boston Transportation Department in order to operate in the City. The ordinance establishes minimum requirements for licensure, such as prohibiting blockage of curb ramps, and authorizes the Department to set standards for data-sharing and distribution of vehicles. An Advisory Committee, comprised of representatives from the Disabilities Commission, the Environment Department, and the Mayor’s Office of New Urban Mechanics, will help inform regulations and policies as the industry evolves.

“Over the last few years we have seen new mobility devices and businesses emerge in cities around the country giving more people ways to access what they need without a car,” said Gina N. Fiandaca, Boston Transportation Commissioner. “The ordinance provides basic safety rules while also empowering our Transportation team to act nimbly to keep pace with a fast-moving industry. Our goal is for us to be ready for the next wave of innovation that hits our streets, and, in accordance with Go Boston 2030, to ensure safe and accessible roads for all users.”

The proposed ordinance would go into effect 90 days after passage and will complement the legislation filed by Representatives Moran and Hunt which will regulate these transportation options throughout the Commonwealth. This initiative is a collaboration between the Boston Transportation Department and the Mayor’s Office of New Urban Mechanics.

This ordinance strengthens the Walsh Administration’s work to efficiently support residents by providing investment in transportation infrastructure, reducing carbon emis-

sions from motor vehicles, and providing for safer streets. In addition, in January, Mayor Walsh proposed four bills at the Massachusetts State House, furthering goals established in Go Boston 2030, the City of Boston’s comprehensive transportation plan. Execution of the plan is well underway with action being taken on more than half of the 58 projects and policies identified. These initiatives work to reduce congestion, encourage travel by transit, bike and on foot, and ensure safety and access equitably for all users of Boston’s streets.

Examples of the Mayor’s work include partnering with the MBTA to promote the use of public transit by establishing a dedicated bus lane on a section of Washington Street in Roslindale that serves eight different bus lines carrying thousands of passengers daily; incorporating new techniques and upgraded equipment into roadway projects to advance our Vision Zero goal of eliminating traffic fatalities and severe injuries in Boston by 2030; and working to build a network of low stress, strategically placed, separated or buffered bike lanes to allow for safe travel by bike throughout Downtown.

NEW YEAR WITH SAME OLD SCAMS

Eversource and Better Business Bureau offer ways to avoid becoming a victim in 2019

The New Year is in full swing and so are scams targeting utility customers across the country and right here in Massachusetts. Already this year, customers in many towns around the state have been approached by scammers, either on the phone or at their door. To warn customers, Eversource and Better Business Bureau Serving Massachusetts are teaming up to ensure that people know the telltale signs of scams, so they can avoid becoming a victim.

“The scammers, often sounding legitimate and quite convincing, threat-

en to shut off electric service immediately unless instant payment is made,” said Eversource Senior Vice President and Chief Customer Officer Penni Conner. “These scammers can be relentless but they’re only successful if they catch our customers off-guard and scare them into making a payment. We remind customers, if something doesn’t sound right or feel right, trust your gut, and don’t pay.”

With the increase in scams across the country, BBB offers ScamTracker which is a national tracking system that provides up-to-date information on the latest scams. The tool allows consumers to submit scam reports and see what scams are happening right in their backyard. BBB uses ScamTracker to investigate when increased fraudulent activity is reported in a particular area.

“One similarity in many scams, including utility scams, is a sense of urgency. Scammers often convince consumers that payment must be made immediately and that is always a red flag,” says Massachusetts Bet-

ter Business Bureau Spokesperson Paula Fleming. “The more we educate consumers on the basic red flags of a scam, the least likely they are to become victims.”

Tips to help avoid becoming a victim:

- Eversource representatives never demand instant payment over the phone, require the use of pre-paid debit cards or request customers meet at a payment center to make the payment.
- Never provide personal financial or account information to any unsolicited person on the phone, at the door or

online, even if they seem legitimate.

- Beware, some sophisticated scammers can manipulate their caller ID to say the caller is with Eversource.
- Customers who are scheduled for disconnection due to nonpayment receive a written notice that includes information on how to maintain their service.
- Customers can verify they are speaking with an Eversource representative by asking for some basic information about their account like the name on the account, the account address, and the exact past due balance.



MICRO PLANT STUDIO CELEBRATES FIRST YEAR ANNIVERSARY

Micro Plant Studio, the vision of Boston-based artist, founder and owner Julio César Román celebrated his first anniversary of opening the studio, located at 365 West Broadway, with a ribbon cutting ceremony on January 25, 2019. John Allison, South Boston's liaison from the Mayor's office was in attendance to present a citation, as well as Donna Brown of the South Boston Neighborhood Develop-

ment Corporation (SBND). Julio has gone to great lengths to create a space that is bright, peaceful and welcoming to people of all ages. His professionalism, knowledge and outstanding personality makes Micro Plant Studio a destination to explore, ask questions about which plants will do best in your own environment and shop the 20 different types of succulents. These include 50 different styles of micro-pots, decorative/fairy garden toys, plant-

inspired artwork, and a balloon-stuffing machine that allows guests to custom-fill balloons with small plants, stuffed animals, photos, gift cards, and more. Valentine's Day is the perfect occasion to stop by, say hello and choose that special gift for a loved one or yourself.

Guests can also reserve the space to host private, community building workshops and events, such as creating terrariums, painting, and making floral vessels. "The studio is a space

where people are encouraged to create art, be inspired by art and nature, learn from each other, be part of a shared community space, and increase their sense of community by networking with others," observes César Román.

Micro Plant Studio is open Monday thru Friday 11:00AM until 7:00PM and Saturday/Sunday from 11:00AM – 5:00PM. (617) 855-8785. micro-plantstudio.com. Do what you do best Southie, spread the word!

PHOTO CREDIT: FlavioDPhotography.com



Recent South Boston Real Estate Sales

| Property/Type | Price | Sale Date | Rooms | Baths | Sq Ft |
|--|-------------|-----------|-------|-------|-------|
| 50 Liberty Drive UNIT 10B Condo | \$6,800,000 | 8/1/18 | 6 | 3.5 | 2788 |
| 39 A St UNIT 22 Condo | \$1,535,000 | 7/19/18 | 6 | 2 | 1572 |
| 50 Liberty Drive UNIT PH1G Condo | \$1,360,000 | 7/27/18 | 3 | 1.5 | 1016 |
| 45 West Third St UNIT 512 Condo | \$1,350,000 | 7/23/18 | 6 | 2 | 1306 |
| 459-461 East Eighth St UNIT 2 Condo | \$1,350,000 | 7/30/18 | 7 | 3.5 | 2000 |
| 459-461 East Eighth St UNIT 1 Condo | \$1,325,000 | 7/30/18 | 7 | 3.5 | 2000 |
| 45 West Third St UNIT 313 Condo | \$1,285,000 | 8/1/18 | 6 | 2 | 1406 |
| 85-87 A Street Three Family | \$1,275,000 | 7/31/18 | 6 | 2 | 1296 |
| 591 East Third St UNIT5 Condo | \$1,225,000 | 8/1/18 | 6 | 2.5 | 1833 |
| 530 East Fourth Street Two Family | \$1,160,000 | 7/31/18 | 11 | 3 | 2317 |
| 45 West Third St UNIT 213 Condo | \$1,150,000 | 8/1/18 | 6 | 2 | 1245 |
| 330 K St UNIT 2 Condo | \$1,100,000 | 7/30/18 | 6 | 2.5 | 1705 |
| 565 East Seventh Street Condo | \$1,090,000 | 7/24/18 | 10 | 2 | 2500 |
| 39 A St UNIT 4 Condo | \$975,000 | 7/30/18 | 5 | 2 | 1109 |
| 114 Boston Street Three Family | \$960,000 | 8/1/18 | 17 | 3 | 2997 |
| 32 Telegraph St UNIT 1 Condo | \$902,500 | 7/31/18 | 5 | 2 | 1685 |

The Wine Guy

Game Time!

While it's certainly not Christmas morning, I still think that a lot of grown-up kids wake up just a little bit earlier on Super Bowl game day, especially when their team is in the game-like ours is again. (If you're not from New England-transplanted student, work transfer, alien life form, etc.-just go along with me). Since everyone's going to be having lots of different things, I thought it would probably be most helpful if I laid out some broad categories and then pair them with a couple of wine types that would add to the enjoyment, so, here you go:

Italian/Red Sauce-Meatballs, Chicken and Veal Parm, Lasagna, Bolognese pasta and meat-garnished pizza will be even better with a hearty red. Try some **Carpineto Dogajolo Red, Tuscany, 2016, (\$12.99)**. It's the classic Tuscan blend that complements everything Italian and red-sauce based. This family knows food and wine-they've been at it for over 400 years. In Tuscan terms, just getting settled in!

Asian/ Chinese-Since there are so many flavors and fusion options in this category, I thought it would be best to break it down into spicy and non-spicy. For any spicy dishes, a good riesling would complement things nicely. **Charles Smith Kung Fu Girl Riesling 2017, (\$12.99)**, really fits the bill pretty nicely here. Terrific fruit, nice balance and finish and spicy overtones that you'll really enjoy. BBQ- Whether it's ribs, pulled pork, brisket or almost anything else that's cooked/smoked, you can go two ways-white or red. For a white wine, look for a full-bodied Chardonnay. Carneros Chardonnay, Napa, 2016, (\$24.99), is a deep, rich wine with

notes of vanilla, tropical fruit, and crisp citrus, Carneros Chardonnay '16 is an outstanding example of deep, full-bodied Chardonnay. This wine has enjoyed 10 months in oak barrels, which has provided plenty of time for flavors to develop, though this is a big enough Chardonnay that it is sure to gain some complexity as it ages. It's also incredibly soft on the palate, with a long, buttery finish that's perfectly suited to the rich fruit flavors of the wine. For those who prefer reds, try a nice Zinfandel, like a bottle of Dry Creek Vineyard Heritage Zinfandel, 2016, Sonoma, California, (\$18.99). The winemaker says, "the 2016 Heritage Vines Zinfandel is delicious and beautifully balanced. This vintage presents enticing aromatics of raspberries, cherry and a hint of toast and black pepper. On the palate, brambly flavors of ripe boysenberry and spicy dark chocolate come forward. The wine is complex, with bright acidity complimented by notes of berry syrup and mocha. The tannins are silky and smooth to lend a round, rich mouthfeel. From start to finish, this remarkable wine offers refreshing acidity paired with excellent structure." I agree and I think you will, too.

Red Meats on the Grill-If it's burgers, steak or anything else red and grilled, have a Cab. **2016 Oberon Cabernet Sauvignon, Napa, California, (23.99)**, Oberon is one of the brands owned by Folio Fine Wine Partners, a company founded in 2004 by Michael Mondavi, Robert Mondavi's son.

The success of the 2016 Oberon Cabernet Sauvignon is due to a couple of factors. "In 2009, I was finally able to buy grapes from an Oakville grower I'd been trying to work my way into for a while," says Seth Coltrin, Winemaker at the estate. "Also, I finally got some Petit Verdot from Michael [Mondavi]'s Oso Vineyard [northeast of Howell Mountain], which brings in wonderful hue and aromatics."

This one is affordable and delicious; get a few bottles for your party and you won't be sorry!

GoPats! #EVERYTHINGWE'VEGOT!!

Talk to the Wine Guy at jdris8888@gmail.com



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Gatey CYO Hoop Notes

By Kevin Devlin

Plenty of Gate of Heaven CYO hoop action last weekend at the Walsh Community Center. The second season began in the house leagues and soon the travel teams will be competing in the CYO Vicariate and state playoffs.

The semi-final games in the Gatey cadet house league were played on Sunday, January 27. In the first semi-final tilt, the Metro Energy Club defeated the P.S. Deli Club, 63-36. Metro Energy came out of the gate fast taking a 6-0 lead and then went on a 23-6 run to realize a 44-13 advantage at the break. In the second half, the P. S. Deli Club fought back but couldn't dig out of the hole they put themselves in earlier in the game.

For the Metro Energy Club, Jake (The Distributor) Harrison netted fifteen points (two treys) and hauled

down eight rebounds. He also finished with three blocks, three steals, and five assists. Sam Hiller also had a great game, scoring fifteen points and knocking down two three-pointers. Forward Ethan Clark had a terrific game scoring ten points. He also had six rebounds. Alex Polena and Owen Donovan had seven points apiece. Aldo Noury-Ello had a handful of boards and scored five points. Mullen (My Man with a Plan) Byrne pleased the crowd scoring seven points including a three-pointer from downtown, while Eddie Tirabassi contributed four points in the victory.

For the P.S. Deli Club, James (The Sharpshooter) Buzzell netted nineteen point including two three-pointers. Wellington Arias scored five points. Dan Mahoney had three points while Ryan MacDonald, Eddie Geisel, and Max (The Rebounder) Mercer had a deuce apiece.

In the second cadet house league semi-final tilt, the Jack McDonough Club eked out a 36-34 victory against the Boston Home Inspector Club. Both teams had trouble scoring

because they played good defense. The Boston Home Inspector Club led at the half, 14-12. In the second half, the teams battled back and forth with neither team being able to take a comfortable lead. With forty seconds remaining, the McDonough Club had a 32-31 lead. It was nail-biting time. But Coach McGarrell's troops prevailed and went home with a two-point victory; propelling them into the finals against the Metro Energy Club on Sunday, February 3. It should be super game!

For the McDonough Club, Eddie Murray scored thirteen points. Nolan Callow and Tommy White had eight points each, while Lydon McGarrell, Evan Markos, and Robert Wisniewski had a deuce apiece. For the Boston Home Inspector Club, Conor Strickland netted fourteen points including two treys. Dermot Murray had nine points (two treys) Chris Hosea scored eight points, electrifying his fans and teammates with two three-pointers, while Tristen Pecevich finished with a deuce.



Metro Energy Club coached by Chris DiMaggio. The players are: Jake "The Distributor" Harrison, Aldo Noury-Ello, Alex Polena, Owen Donovan, Nolan Young, Sam Heller, Ethan Clark, and Eddie Tirabassi. (Not pictured: Mullen "My Man with the Plan" Byrne)



P.S. Deli Club coached by Jimmy Geisel. The players are: Eddie Geisel, James Buzzell, Ryan MacDonald, Max Mercer, Dan Mahoney, and Wellington Arias.



Ethan Clark from the Metro Energy Club. In the semi-final tilt, he played a superb game netting ten points and hauling down six rebounds.



James Buzzell from the P.S. Deli Club. The slick, lefty sharpshooter scored nineteen points including two three-pointers in the semi-final match-up.



Jack McDonough Club coached by Bobby McGarrell. The players are: Tommy White, Lydon McGarrell, Nolan Callow, Edward Murray, Evan Markos, Robert Wisniewski, Jared Frith and Finbar Kyne.



Certified (IAABO) officials (from left) Devin DiManno and Aidan Killeen.



Conor Strickland from the Boston Home Inspector Club. In the cadet house league semi-final game he netted fourteen points, including two three-pointers.



Eddie Murray from the Jack McDonough Club. In the first round play-off cadet house league game, he scored thirteen points and hauled down a handful of rebounds.



Joey Evan's Club in the Gatey midget house league coached by James Schallmo



Iron Worker's Club in the Gatey midget house league coached by Greg Lally.



Boston Home Inspector Club coached by Scott Bell. The players are: Chase Bell, Tristen Pecevich, Dermot Murray, Cormac Lafferty, Chris Hosea, Conor Strickland and Mario Blasi.



This week, Danny gave "Pic's Picks" for Super Bowl LIII:

You would think that the more we watch the New England Patriots play in the Super Bowl, the easier it would be to calm the nerves leading up to the big game. That has proven to not be true, for me at least. In fact, I feel as if I've been getting even more nervous as the years go on. For example, this year's AFC Championship Game in Kansas City was probably the most stressed out I've ever been during a Patriots playoff game. And as you know, there have been plenty of nail-biters along the way. The two-week wait doesn't help, either. But the time has finally come. Super Bowl LIII is here, which means I must make my official prediction for the game. I'll give you a few Super Bowl prop bets as well.

So, without further adieu, here are my picks for Super Bowl LIII.

NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS (-2.5) over Los Angeles Rams

Like I always tell you, I bet with my head, not with my heart. But in a game like this, how can you not factor in what your heart wants, just a little bit? You know where my heart lies. But my head is also telling me that the Patriots are about to roll on a Rams team that shouldn't even be in this game.

LA benefited from the worst non-penalty-call in NFL history in the NFC Championship. With under two minutes left in that game in

New Orleans, the Rams should've been called for a blatant pass interference, but instead, the refs swallowed their whistles and didn't call anything. Had they made the correct "defensive pass interference" call, then it would've given the Saints a first down and a chance to run the clock out before kicking an easy field goal or scoring a touchdown, which would've left the Rams with less than 30 seconds to drive down the field. Because of the non-call, Drew Brees' third-down pass was incomplete and the clock stopped before they kicked a field goal, giving the Rams nearly two minutes left on the clock to drive down and tie the game and send it to overtime, where LA eventually won. There should've been no overtime though, and the Saints should be playing in the Super Bowl.

As I was watching that NFC Championship play out, I actually wanted the Rams to win, because I saw something in them that I didn't see in the Saints. And it jumped off the screen.

Inexperience.

We all know Bill Belichick's history of dominance against young quarterbacks. But it wasn't just Jared Goff's first-half nerves in the NFC Championship that made me root for LA to be New England's opponent in the Super Bowl. It was also eye-

opening to see young running back Todd Gurley turn into a puddle, and also to watch 33-year-old head coach Sean McVay seemingly not have his offense prepared for crowd noise in New Orleans' dome.

The Rams have all the talent in the world, don't get me wrong. They're also a consistently aggressive bunch, and you'll probably see that with their play calling on Sunday in Atlanta. But to give the edge to McVay and Goff over Belichick and Tom Brady would be absolutely insane.

This is the Patriots' third straight Super Bowl appearance, and their fourth Super Bowl appearance in the last five years. Belichick and Brady have literally seen it all. And I expect New England to be the more prepared team this Sunday because of it.

Not only that, but the Patriots are the best at committing to the underdog mentality, even if they're the favorite in Vegas. However, this year, you can throw that -2.5 out the window, because there's no doubt this Patriots team feels as disrespected as any Patriots team has ever felt. And contrary to what some of the knucklehead national media members who are starving for attention might tell you, these Patriots have every right to feel disrespected, because they have been.

From Deflategate to Brady "falling off a cliff" to Seth Wickersham's gar-

bage ESPN report about the demise of the Patriots' dynasty last year, there aren't many national talking heads who thought Belichick and Brady would still be going strong in 2019. The noise was loud. It was real. And the Patriots heard it.

That's horrible news for the Rams.

Give me the Patriots to win the Super Bowl, 31-17.

PROP BETS:

Brady or Goff to Win Super Bowl MVP
YES (-250)

Giselle Bundchen Shown During Live Broadcast
OVER 1.5 (+120)

"Greatest Show on Turf" Said During Live Broadcast
YES (+150)

Tony Romo Says "Here We Go"
OVER 2.5 (+150)

Color of Liquid Poured on Winning Coach
RED (+600)

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SPORTS TODAY

BRADY: 'ZERO' CHANCE I'M RETIRING

The NBA rumor mill is about to heat up, following the latest trade request from one of the league's elite big men.

Anthony Davis and his agent, Rich Paul, told the New Orleans Pelicans this week that he will not sign an extension with the team and wants to be traded to a championship contender.

Davis turns 26 in March and can become a free agent after next season.

The Pelicans have since confirmed Davis' trade request, via a statement on the team's website:

"This past weekend, Anthony Davis' representatives informed us that Anthony does not wish to sign a contract extension with our team and subsequently has requested a trade.

Although we are disappointed in this decision, our organization's top priority is to bring an NBA championship to our city and fans and build our team for long-term success.

"Relative to specific talks of a trade, we will do this on our terms and our timeline. One that makes the

most sense for our team and it will not be dictated by those outside of our organization. We have also requested the League to strictly enforce the tampering rules associated with this transaction."

The NBA trade deadline is Feb. 7. Reports suggest that the Los Angeles Lakers and New York Knicks will be among Davis' most aggressive suitors.

Davis cannot be acquired by the Boston Celtics before Feb. 7 unless Kyrie Irving is involved in the trade or Irving agrees to a new contract extension, because of what is called the "Rose Rule."

Under the "Rose Rule," no NBA team can have two players under max rookie extensions who were both acquired via trade. Since the Celtics traded for Irving, who's currently in the final year of his max rookie extension, they cannot trade for Davis, who's also playing under that same max rookie extension, unless Irving agrees to a new deal now or is part of the package to acquire Davis.



Tweet of the Week



Welcome to Atlanta.



ANTHONY DAVIS REQUESTS TRADE

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WHAT TO WATCH

NFL SUNDAY, FEB. 3
SUPER BOWL LIII
New England (-2.5) vs
LA Rams 6:30 P.M. CBS

NBA SUNDAY, FEB. 3
Oklahoma City at Boston
2 P.M. ABC

NHL SUNDAY, FEB. 3
Boston at Washington
12:30 P.M. NBC

BOXING
SATURDAY, FEB. 2
WBO LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHT
CHAMPIONSHIP
Sergey Kovalev vs Eleider
Alvarez (c) 10 P.M. ESPN+



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