# South Boston TOD

July 11, 2019: Vol.7 Issue 26

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#### LATEST EDISON PROPOSAL TO INCLUDE COMMERCIAL OPTION

the prospective develproposal for the redevelopment

arlier this week, Redgate, of the Edison Plant to the Boston Civic Design Commission at oper, presented the latest a public hearing at City Hall. At the hearing, representatives from

Redgate indicated that the latest redevelopment proposal will include a commercial option for

**CONTINUED ON page 5** 

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#### EDITORIAL ==

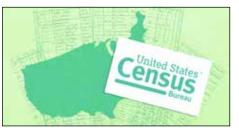
#### Citizenship Question on the Census Makes Perfect Sense

the upcoming United States Census that asks if you are a citizen seems to be as logical as having border security and voter ID laws. America has the right to know who is in our country. Every poll confirms that most Americans want all three. It boggles the mind that the President of the United States is being attacked for demanding that the question be included and is being grilled by the media as

asked, as if it's something evil and devious. Yet those who oppose it; particularly the candidates on the left who are campaigning to take his job are not being asked why they are against it.

Knowing who is in the United States is a sensible step to help maintain order and accountability. Why would anyone oppose this? Well, it seems more Americans believe that it all has to do

aving a question included on to why he wants a citizenship question and tactics necessary. Some call it voter fraud. The willingness to 'pad the rolls' with those who are in the country illegally is a tactic that some less than honest political activists have been caught using. Add to this, the blatant and frantic push by some in politics, particularly in some big cities, to grant legal that the Marathon Bomber should have voting rights to non-citizens, whether the right to vote from his Death Row they are here legally or not, and the sus- cell. The motive for opposing steps that picions grow. There is even one presi- identify who should be in the country with winning elections by any means dential candidate who proudly stated and who should not, seems pretty clear.



"It's a smile, it's a kiss, it's a sip of wine – It's Summertime" - Kenny Chesney

## Kids Day with South Boston **Farmers Market on** Monday July 15

he South Boston Neighborhood Development Corporation (SBNDC) announces its annual Kids Day at the South Boston Farmers Market from 12 to 3 p.m. Monday, July 15.

At this year's Kids Day, there will be a variety of fun and educational activities for kids to participate in, with an emphasis on how to have a positive impact on the environment.

Lou the BalLOUnist will twist balloons into



colorful creations and kids can get their face painted. The Boston Nature Center/ Mass Audubon will engage children in learning about the natural world and ways they can take part in helping the environment. Play Recycle-Ball (a combination of recycling and basketball) or create your own recycling poster with SBNDC. Boston Medical Center Health Plan and UMass Extension will also be on site with fun prizes.

While you're at the mar-

ket, beat the July heat with a refreshing frozen treat from Del's Lemonade!

Massachusetts-based Freitas Farm and Wenger's Farm now have fresh earlysummer squash, snap peas, strawberries and rhubarb, as well as baked goods, freerange eggs, herbs and plants ready for your garden and more. Be sure to stop by the market manager's tent to pick up a reusable bag and a market loyalty card to earn a \$5 market coupon!

The South Boston Farm-

ers Market is located at 446 West Broadway (in front of the municipal parking lot) and runs from 12 to 6 p.m. every Monday through October. Farmers accept EBT/SNAP, WIC, and Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Coupons, and has the Healthy Incentive SNAP match program (HIP) available for EBT/SNAP users.

For more information about vendors, programming or sponsorship, or to learn about joining the farmers market committee, visit our

website (http://sbndc.org/ south-boston-farmers-market/), or find us on Facebook (https://www.facebook.com/ SouthieFarmersMkt/), Instagram (@sbfarmersmarket) and Twitter (@SBFarmersMrkt).

SBNDC is a local nonprofit that has successfully developed over 200 units of affordable housing in the community. SBNDC also provides support to the South Boston Street Festival, the Christmas and Spring Strolls, and Southie Trees.

#### **SouthBostonTODAY** PO Box 491 • South Boston, MA 02127

Publisher · John Ciccone

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# Information Center

#### Is There Anything they won't Say or Promise?

**SOUTH BOSTON TODAY** 

John Ciccone

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

udging by what the Democrat candidates for president have been saying and promising these last few weeks, the answer to the above question is probably NO. It seems these 'Progressives' as they call themselves are in a full-on competition with each other to see who can say the most outrageous things and make the most unattainable promises in an effort to stand out in their crowded field and get noticed. But it seems to be backfiring as many Americans know most of what they are promising is unrealistic and unaffordable. Unfortunately for the candidates, Americans are not stupid.

They promise free college for all and want to provide free health-care to millions of illegals at the expense of taxpayers. Taxpayers of course will have to pay for their own health costs as well as the illegals'. While they insist, taxing the rich at higher levels will cover the cost it would not even come close and it's the Middle Class who will wind up paying through the nose. And we all know, by their own admission, that they fully intend to raise everyone's taxes. It is, after all, what Socialists excel at.

Eric Swalwell of California, promised to confiscate legal firearms from American gunowners and gut the Second Amendment if he got elected and made it the center piece of his campaign. He had to drop out of the race last week as he saw his effort go down in flames. These people never learn. Gun confiscation is a losing issue. There are now nearly 100 million Americans who own guns and they will not, not ever, allow the government to take them.

They want open borders, and some say they will hinder ICE and defund the US Border Patrol.

They have disdain for the military and give law enforcement little respect. They have made it clear by their statements and actions that many of them are no friend of Israel; America's biggest ally in the Middle East and some have even implied support for Sharia Law. They champion abortion not only in the third trimester but even up to birth and yes, even after birth. And, of course, everything is about race. Disagree with any of them on anything and you must be a racist. What are they thinking? The people on those debate stages are proving that they are radicals, their thinking is way out of line with the majority of Americans and they are making it clear that the taxpaying citizens are not their priority. They seem to care more about catering to people who sneak across our border.

And make no mistake, as boring and ridiculous as those debates were, the voters are taking notice. Even many registered Democrat voters just can't believe what these candidates are pushing. They can't believe it. They don't agree with it and they don't like it. The words 'America First' offends these candidates and they seem to also be offended by this country in general.

Now to touch on some of the stories that ticked off millions of Americans: Starbucks had to apologize because it actually asked six police officers -paying customers - to leave one of their stores because one 1 customer said she didn't feel safe with the cops being there. Will it be the policy of Starbucks to deny law enforcement personnel service because one overly sensitive cop hating patron demands it?

The NIKE Clothing company was set to put out a new line of Sneak-

ers/Running Shoes with the Betsy Ross 13 Star American flag on them in celebration of Independence Day. That flag is a historical part of America's heritage and is the banner the colonist fought under to win our freedom. But because ex NFL player Colin Kaepernick demanded they pull them out of production because he was offended by them, NIKE took the cowards way out, buckled to the disrespectful radical's orders and removed them from production. Big mistake on the part of NIKE. This time their dancing on the

strings of Kaepernick has brought down upon them the wrath of millions of patriotic Americans who have organized a nationwide boycott against NIKE.

And finally, California's flaky governor has blamed the recent earth-quakes in that crumbling state on, now wait for it – Global Warming/Climate Change. The fact that California has been having earthquakes for centuries seems to have eluded him much like common sense and reality has eluded most of the other politicians in that state.

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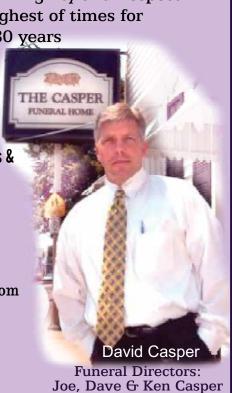
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#### Window Into The State House

Window Into The State House provides our readers a synopsis of important issues of interest, past and current, that are being proposed, debated or noted upon by the Massachusetts Legislature. Many issues that are not related to local city government services are acted upon and have a dire mpact 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.

#### Attention Rachael Rollins: The Globe just did you a favor

The Globe's Kevin Cullen is giving Suffolk County DA Rachael Rollins some friendly advice: Stop being so thin-skinned about criticism of her "do not prosecute" policies, saying a recent Globe story that pointed out some legitimate flaws in her approach toward reform will actually help her in the long run.

Fyi: The Herald's Michael Graham isn't dispensing friendly advice to Rollins. He's in all-out-attack mode.

#### About Nancy Pelosi's swat at Ayanna Pressley et gang ...

The Globe's Joan Vennochi happens to think Nancy Pelosi is legislatively on track on most issues, but she thinks Pelosi is making a mistake by taking swats at U.S. Reps. Ayanna Pressley,

Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, Ilhan Omar and Rashida Tlaib for opposing the recently passed border-aid bill. The bottom line: The rebellious newcomers have time on their side, unlike the 79-year-old Pelosi, Vennochi writes.

#### Advocates: DOC undermining solitary-confinement reforms

From Shira Schoenberg at MassLive: "Amid controversy over Massachusetts' solitary confinement policies, prisoners' rights advocates say the Department of Correction is seeking to hamstring an oversight committee with restrictive regulations that would limit members' ability to visit prisons and bar them from speaking to the press."

At CommonWealth magazine, local attorney Margaret Monsell is accusing the Baker administration of undermining new solitary-confinement reforms.

#### Sorry, Somerville. The FBI and ICE may already have your facialrecognition data

This is a big story – and, we assume, it may involve our very own RMV. The Washington Post reports that the FBI and ICE have regularly tapped into state driver's license databases across the county, "scanning through hundreds of millions of Americans' photos without their knowledge or consent" and that "neither Congress nor state legislatures have authorized" the action.

The piece notes that Somerville, along with San Francisco, recently banned its police and government agencies from using facial-recognition technology, citing government overreach and privacy concerns. But, well, Somerville officials don't control the FBI and ICE. And neither do federal and state lawmakers, it would appear.

#### His third term or her first term? Polito out-raises Baker in first-half of year

This doesn't exactly look like a governor gearing up for a third-term bid. It looks more like a passing of the fund-raising baton. In any event, the AP at WBUR is reporting that Lt. Gov. Karyn Polito has pulled in more campaign funds in five of the first six months of the year and has more cash stashed in her war chest than Gov. Charlie Baker. State data shows Polito with more than \$1 million in her account, while Baker is sitting on \$728,000.

#### Michelle Carter files appeal to Supreme Court in 'texting suicide' case

Yet another reason to watch the new HBO documentary on the case. From Dan Glaun at MassLive: "Michelle Carter, the Plainville woman found guilty of manslaughter for pressuring her on-and-off again boyfriend into killing himself while they were both teenagers, has appealed her conviction to the U.S. Supreme Court." The Globe's Danny McDonald has more on the appeal.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

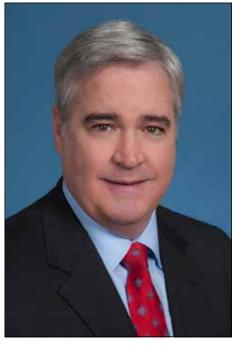
APPOINTMENT OF CONSERVATOR OR OTHER PROTECTIVE ORDER PURSUANT TO G. L c. 190B, § 5-304 & § 5-405	Docket No. SU19P1484PM	Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court			
In the matter of: Margaret M Hussey		RESPONDENT (Person to be Protected/Minor)			
Of: South Boston, MA	FF b I				
To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by		Suffolk Probate and Family Court			
Debra Hartigan of Andover, MA		24 New Chardon Street			
in the above captioned matter alleging that Margaret M Hu of a Conservator or other protective order and requesting the	ssey is in need hat	Boston MA, 02114			
(or some other suitable person) be appointed as Conservat With Corporate Surety on the bond.	tor to serve				
The petition asks the court to determine that the Responde that a protective order or appointment of a Conservator is no that the proposed conservator is appropriate. The petition is this court.	necessary, and				
You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to	do so, you or your attor	ency must ten a written annearance at this court of			
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	GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR	DOCKEL NO.	Commonwealth of Massachusetts			
	INTMENT OF GUARDIAN FOR	SU19P1483GD	The Trial Court Probate and Family Court			
	ITATED PERSON PURSUANT TO	00101140000	Probate and Family Court			
INCAPAC	G.L. c. 190B, §5-304					
In the matter	of: Margaret M Hussey		RESPONDENT			
Of: South Bo	ston, MA		Alleged Incapacitated Person			
To the named	Respondent and all other interested persons	s, a petition has	Suffolk Probate and Family Court			
been filed by			24 New Chardon Street			
Deborah W Hartigan of Andover, MA Debra W. Hartigan of Andover, MA In the above captioned matter alleging that Margaret M Hussey is in need			Boston MA, 02114			
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#### Councilor Flynn & Councilor Flaherty FY20 City Budget Update for South Boston



s the city budget recently passed at last week's City Council meeting, Boston City Councilor Ed Flynn and Boston City Councilor At-Large Michael Flaherty are providing an update on the FY20 city budget on projects and investments that will impact South Boston. Over the past several months, the City Council and Mayor Walsh's Administration have worked on crafting a budget that will allow the city to provide quality city services to our residents, as well as making significant investments that will enhance our streets, parks, environment, and overall quality of life. In



South Boston, the budget will allow for investment in major community spaces and parks such as the Curley Community Center (L St Bathhouse), Moakley Park, Medal of Honor Park, Flaherty Park, Orton Field, and the South Boston Branch Library, as well as climate resiliency measures and public works projects in Fort Point.

Below is a list of capital projects for FY 2020-2024 in South Boston: South Boston

- 1. \$15M investment for major renovation to the BCYF Curley Community Center
- 2. \$250K to install playground equipment for kids ages two to five

in the Medal of Honor Park

- 3. \$20M to design and construct a climate resilient waterfront park along the Fort Point Channel
- 4. \$600K to build a new inter-generational gathering space outside the BHA Monsignor Powers on L Street, where our senior and residents can relax.
- 5. \$99K to complete landscaping and exterior improvements at the South Boston Branch of the Boston Public Library
- 6. \$2M budget to implement the Moakley Park masterplan, including upgrades to our athletic fields
- 7. \$715K to significantly upgrade the playground and amenities at Flaherty Park (B St & West 3rd St.)
- 8. \$400K investment to improve playing fields and other amenities at Orton Field behind the Condon School
- 9. \$7.4M investment to continue the Crossroads Initiative, an initiative designed to build better links between major districts of Boston, at Summer Street

10. \$250K to reconstruct Congress Street from the Fort Point Channel to West Service Road by adding new sidewalks, street lights, and trees.

"I'd like to thank all of the residents, activists, and civic groups for their feedback in this year's budget process," said Councilor Flynn. "Thank you also to Mayor Walsh and

his team for investing in the people of South Boston with significant funding for our parks, community centers, and our library, as well as climate resiliency measures and major public works projects. This funding will improve the quality of life for our residents, families, seniors, and persons with disabilities."

"Every budget cycle allows the Boston City Council and our constituents to look back at how we invest in our services and resources for the City of Boston. Further, we also have another opportunity to look at where we can do better," said Flaherty. "This budget season is no exception - through funding our public resources, such as necessary improvements to our local library, infrastructure additions and installations to our neighborhood parks, Mayor Walsh and his administration continue to show commitment to the people of South Boston and its development through significant investments. Councilor Flynn and I will continue to work together to advocate for the betterment of the neighborhood."

For more information, please contact Councilor Flynn's office at 617-635-3203 or Ed.Flynn@boston.gov or Councilor Flaherty at 617-635-4205 or Michael.F.Flaherty@boston.gov.

#### Edison continued from front page

consideration alongside the previous mixed-use proposal.

After three years of discussing proposals for a mixed-use development at the Edison Plant, members of the Boston Civic Design Commission asked why the newest proposal would contain a commercial alternative.

"We expect to see a zoning compliant alternative alongside the proponent's preferred alternative as requested by this community at public meetings, in letters, and in petitions submitted to our offices," said **Sen. Nick Collins.** 

**State Representative David Biele,** who attended the public hearing, provided background and context for the Boston Civic Design Commission, explaining that a residential deed restriction prevents

residential housing from being built at the Edison Plant. The residential deed restriction was negotiated by Massport in 2014 to protect Conley Terminal and the Port of Boston. Conley Terminal has an economic impact of 4.6 billion dollars supporting over 1,600 businesses and over 50,000 jobs across the city. "During public review of last year's proposal, the community requested reasonable alternatives and changes to the mixed-use proposal at public meetings and in writing," said Rep. Biele. "Future proposals must address these concerns by including reasonable alternatives for public review. Additionally, given the existence of a residential deed restriction which prevents residential uses at this site, having alternatives for consideration makes sense."

**Councilor Michael Flaherty** 

stated, "We have a responsibility to protect the working port. There is a residential deed restriction on this site that some estimate could cost between 75-100 million to remove so it makes sense at this time for the community to look at what a full commercial buildout would entail. The Edison site could present a tremendous opportunity to support and enhance our port related activities while also creating more jobs for our residents."

The public review of the redevelopment of the Edison Plant is now in year three. Last year, over 1000 residents signed a petition expressing their opposition to the height and density of the mixed-use development in the second proposal and called for reasonable alternatives. In a letter to the Boston Planning and Development Agency, South Boston's elected officials amplified the call for alternatives, including office space, commercial space, and spaces consistent with the surrounding Conley Terminal and port industrial uses.

"At last year's public meeting at the Tynan School, I announced my opposition to the Edison Project due to concerns about pedestrian safety, traffic, and infrastructure issues," said **Councilor Flynn.** "Our constituents deserve to see alternative proposals that account for their concerns about quality of life issues."

These comments were included in a scoping document issued by the BDPA to Redgate earlier this winter. One could expect an updated or new filing from Redgate in response to these comments and the BPDA scoping documents in the future, which would kick off another round of public meetings and comments.

## **Boston Housing Authority Implements Small Area Fair Market Rents For Greater Boston Area**

To expand opportunity and prevent displacement, BHA will apply the HUD's Fair Market Rent formula by zip code

he Boston Housing Authority implemented a Small Area Fair Market Rent (SAMFR) policy, allowing more than 12,000 residents with federal Housing Choice Vouchers greater access to Boston area neighborhoods and towns. The BHA, along with the Cambridge Housing Authority, are the first housing authorities in the Nation to voluntarily adopt the SAFMR standards.

Historically, housing authorities have been limited by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to one payment standard, known as Fair Market Rent (FMR), for each metropolitan area. However, under new HUD regulations, BHA can now adjust its payment standards for each zip code, more precisely matching the actual rental costs. As a result, families will now have the choice to rent in areas that have historically been unaffordable with a voucher. This change affirmatively furthers fair housing goals and takes steps towards deconcentrating voucher families by providing expanded housing choices in Boston and the surrounding areas.

"Our housing efforts have always been grounded by our fundamental belief that every person, regardless of their income, is deserving of a home," said Mayor Martin J. Walsh. "By implementing the Small Area Fair Market Rent policy for voucher holders, we are doubling down on one of the most important aspects of our fair housing efforts - the right for people to choose a place to live that works best for themselves and their families."

The Federal Housing Choice Voucher Program, known as Section 8, is a program funded by the federal government to subsidize rent for low-income families and individuals across the United States. Voucher-holders pay approximately 30% of their income towards rent and utilities, and the federal government covers the rest for apartments up to a certain dollar amount.



Prior to this change the BHA payment standards for a two-bedroom apartment was \$1914 for every zip code, city, and town in the Boston area, regardless of the actual cost of housing in individual neighborhoods. With only one payment standard for the entire region, voucher holders have been historically concentrated in low-income income areas, while failing to meet the needs of renters who may wish to pursue housing elsewhere. The new SAFMR will adjust the payment standards in all 236 zip codes in the Boston Housing Authority coverage area to more precisely match the actual rents in those towns and neighborhoods. For example, the implementation of SAFMR increases the two-bedroom payment standard in Brighton to \$2600, in Newton to \$2800, and in Framingham to \$2200, making more neighborhoods accessible and affordable for BHA voucher holders.

"When the Section 8 Program was first created, it was designed to empower low-income people with the ability to choose where they want to live and raise their families." BHA Administrator Bill McGonagle said. "By matching our Housing Choice Vouchers with the actual cost of rent in our communities, we hope to fulfill that promise."

In setting its policy, BHA utilized

current rental data to ensure that payment standards are high enough to prevent the displacement of voucher holders who wish to stay in their current neighborhood, but not so high that they would have the effect of artificially driving up rents for both voucher and non-voucher renters.

This year, BHA was able to secure approximately \$28,000,000 in additional funding for vouchers after BHA, Cambridge and the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development initiated a rent survey and appealed the FMR. The survey demonstrated the need for a higher FMR after the previous HUD FMR rate lagged significantly behind the Boston region's rising rental market. The new rate and additional funding allowed BHA to implement SAFMR without lowering the payment standards in some Boston neighborhoods.

This policy was submitted as an amendment to the BHA's 2019 Annual Plan Leased Housing Administrative Plan. The policy change followed a public comment period and public hearing at the Copley Branch of the Boston Public Library. The majority of comments were very favorable but the BHA did adjust some payment standards in response to comments related to concerns about actual rent levels in some communities and displacement.

#### CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

Docket No. SU10P0896EA Commonwealth Of

Massachusetts
The Trial Court

**Probate and Family Court** 

Estate of: Gail C McDavitt

Date of Death: 02/15/2010

Suffolk Probate and Family Court 24 New Chardon Street Boston, MA 02114 (617) 788-8300 To all interested persons:

A Petition for S/A- Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative

has been filed by

#### James T McDavitt of South Boston MA

requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that:

James T McDavitt of South

**Boston MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve on the bond in **an unsupervised** administration

**IMPORTANT NOTICE** You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 07/26/2019. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED
ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE
MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM
PROBATE CODE (MUPC) A
Personal Representative
appointed under the MUPC in an
unsupervised administration is
not required to file an inventory
or annual accounts with the
Court. Persons interested in

regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration. WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court

the estate are entitled to notice

June 14, 2019 Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate **July 11, 2019** 



## Breathe Easy. We're reducing pollution.



#### The Conley Terminal Clean Truck Program

Through The Conley Terminal Clean Truck Program, Massport leveraged a federal environmental grant to remove over 80 older trucks from service and replaced them with newer, cleaner operating vehicles.

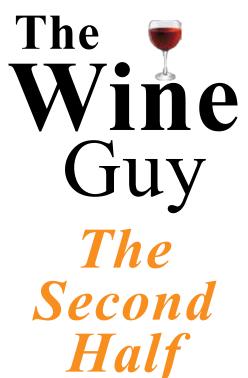
#### The Conley Terminal Rubber-Tired Gantry (RTG) Program

Recently, The Conley Terminal Rubber-Tired Gantry (RTG) Program leveraged a federal environmental grant to replace five rubber-tired gantry crane engines with engines that meet a higher level of pollution controls. These new engines will reduce fuel use by up to 30% over their lifetime.

Through the implementation of initiatives like the Clean Truck Program and The RTG Program, Massport has significantly improved air quality in the parks and neighborhoods surrounding Conley Terminal.

Eco-friendly. Eco-focused.





he second half of Summer is officially here. I say the same thing every year, but it's true:" how did we get here so fast?". Nevertheless, let's look at some wines for the weather we have and hopefully, will have, until well into October.

Wente Brothers Morning Fog Char-

donnay, Livermore Valley, California, (\$19.99). From 'California's First Family of Chardonnay', comes their Wente Morning Fog Chardonnay. It's the perfect companion for our climbing temperatures and unlike some California Chardonnays, Morning Fog is not a big, heavy oak bomb. Wente struck a beautiful balance between bright acidity and subtle herbal notes in this wine, which allows the dominant fruit flavors to shine. Sip it as an aperitif, or with most any appetizer you can think of on the lighter side. Grilled fish, roasted chicken, salads, seafood pastas and much more can be paired with this California white.

Ninety Plus Cellars Lot 42 Pinot Grigio, 2018, Trentino, Italy, (\$10.99), is a bright and approachable white wine from Italy. This Pinot Grigio is the perfect complement to any evening, weeknight or weekend, and is sure to please any crowd. A straw, golden yellow color in the glass, this wine shows fresh aromas of crisp apples, pears and apricots that mingle with fresh flowers and honey. The bouquet introduces a palate with a

nice amount of weight and a welcome streak of minerality. This PG is a good match for foods such as pasta primavera, Chicken Picatta and all types of grilled seafood. At this price, it's a good bet to have several on hand-I'm sure they won't go to waste!

Boundary Breaks Dry Riesling No. 239, Finger Lakes, New York, 2017, (\$23.99), "Clean and transparent, this is pretty gorgeous. A super bargain, this looks like the best I've seen in the brand so far (and perhaps the best table wine I've seen from Boundary Breaks). It likely will age well too..." ~ Robert Parker, Jr.'s Wine Advocate. It's got beautifully ripe fruit and bracing. balancing acidity, making it remarkably food friendly. Parker and others think it will drink at its peak from 2019 until 2032, so don't hesitate to pick up several for this summer and summers to come. Grilled Lamb and Pork items will love this one, as will Bratwurst and Italian Sweet sausage, paired with cold German Potato Salad.

Milbrandt Vineyards, Traditions Rose, 2018, Columbia Valley, Washington, (\$14.99), is a blend of two



grape varieties that are primarily found along the Mediterranean coast. It combines Sangiovese, Italy's flagship red grape variety, with Syrah, a mainstay of the Rhone Valley and a known "cépage améliorateur", or improver variety. Together, the two make a dense, inky red wine with characters of red and black fruits, and an herbal, scrubby character. This wine, however, doesn't stay with the skins to long and the resulting Rose has high ABV, real minerality and a long finish, which makes it a great Rose for grilled red meats. This is a wine that should be served as cold as possible with Black Angus burgers, New York Strip or Ribeye with Portobello mushrooms dipped in a Cabernet Sauvignon reduction. Tremendous!

Talk to The Wine Guy at jdris8888@ gmail.com

#### DOROTHY CURRAN WEDNESDAY NIGHT CONCERTS RETURN JULY 17

he Dorothy Curran
Wednesday Night
Concert Series returns from July 17 to August
14 for another great season
of outdoor music to entertain music fans of all ages
on City Hall Plaza with a
tribute to Chicago, the classic soul of Charlie Thomas'
Drifters, an evening of
Motown funk, and the grand
finale featuring the legendary Tavares.

Now celebrating 47 years as Boston's longest-running outdoor concert series, these performances feature exciting entertainment for music lovers of all ages. The series is presented by Mayor Walsh in partnership with the Boston Parks and Recreation Department and the Mayor's Office of Tourism, Sports, and Entertainment. The media sponsor is WROR 105.7 with sponsorship support

from Capital One and Polar Beverages. All shows begin at 7 p.m.

The series kicks off July 17 with Total Access, a tribute to the band Chicago. City Hall Plaza favorites Charlie Thomas' Drifters return on July 24 for a Rock and Roll Reunion Night with La La Brooks. On August 7 enjoy a journey through the greatest decades of Motown funk with the Hipshot Band. The 2019 Dorothy Curran Wednesday Night Concert Series closes August 14 with Disco Night featuring the legendary Tavares performing hits including "Heaven Must Be Missing An Angel" and "More Than a Woman."

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



Tavares headlines the grand finale of the 2019 Dorothy Curran Wednesday Night Concert Series on August 14.

# Recent South Boston Real Estate Sales

Property/Type	Price	Sale Date	Rooms	Baths	Sq Ft
537 East First St UNIT 8 Condo	\$1,245,000	4/24/19	5	2	1,518
47 Thomas Park Two Family	\$1,100,000	4/29/19	9	3	2,316
225 Dorchester St UNIT 10 Condo	\$1,015,000	4/23/19	6	2.5	1,875
14 West Broadway UNIT 3-C Condo	\$949,000	4/23/19	5	2	1,005
205 West Eighth St UNIT 2 Condo	\$810,000	4/26/19	5	2	1,155
128 P St UNIT 1 Condo	\$802,500	4/25/19	4	2	1,265
540 East Broadway UNIT 4-C Condo	\$780,000	4/25/19	4	2	952
12 Mohawk St UNIT 6 Condo	\$755,000	4/24/19	5	2	1,262
14 West Broadway UNIT 4-D Condo	\$755,000	4/23/19	4	1	1,055
654 East Seventh St UNIT A-1 Condo	\$740,000	4/24/19	5	2	1,266
832 East Second St UNIT 3 Condo	\$675,000	4/26/19	5	2	829





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#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING ON SITE CLEAN-UP ACTIVITIES

On-Terminal Areas 900 East First Street, South Boston MassDEP RTN 3-00257

Former Owner: Coastal Oil of New England (CONE)
Current Owner: Massachusetts Port Authority (Massport)

Monday July 29, 2019

As part of the Public Involvement Process for the site at 900 East First Street, Massport will host a public information meeting about the site remediation and submittal of a Partial Permanent Solution with Conditions for this site. The site is tracked by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) under Release Tracking Number (RTN) 3-00257. The purpose of this meeting is to provide information on the continued cleanup of the site pursuant to the Massachusetts Contingency Plan (MCP).

The meeting will be held at Tynan Elementary School and Community Center at 650 E. 4th Street in South Boston on Monday, July 29, 2019 at 7:00 PM.

Copies of the assessment and remediation documents are available for review at the South Boston Public Library and MassDEP, Northeast Regional Office, 205B Lowell Street, Wilmington, MA 01876 or on-line at http://public.dep.state.ma.us/wsc\_viewer/.

Interested parties may also submit written questions or concerns to James Stolecki at Massport's Environmental Management Unit Office, One Harborside Drive, East Boston, MA 02128 or by e-mail at jstolecki@massport.com.

#### Registry Of Motor Vehicle Report On License Suspensions

State-to-State Communications and Actions Underway Interim Progress Report

The RMV report updates the Preliminary Review memorandum provided on July 1st and updates progress made on the Registry of Motor Vehicles review of the state-to-state data sharing and communications concerning violations by Massachusetts licensed drivers, including progress on the next steps and actions identified in the July 1st report and additional actions and next steps as of the close of business, Wednesday, July 3rd.

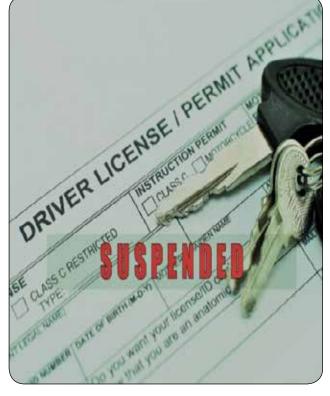
Much of the progress reported here is the direct result of the dedication and hard work of the RMV staff. Staff teams are in place to continue the important work of reviewing and acting on previously unprocessed out of state violation notices this weekend, on both Saturday and Sunday.

The key changes since the first interim report on July 1st are as follows:

- All remaining suspensions based on the unprocessed out of state notifications identified in Quincy headquarters on Wednesday June 26 have been processed, with 940 suspensions issued pertaining to 746 unique drivers. This process is now completed.
- Additional processes are being developed to ensure that all incoming out-of-state notifications received by mail are scanned and reviewed and that any notifications triggering suspension actions are acted upon either the day the notification is received or within one business day after.

additional locations where unprocessed out of state violations may have been stored, including Quincy headquarters, all service centers, the Registry's archives stored in Concord and a private document storage location. Boxes of out of state violations from 2011 through 2017 were pulled from the registry's archives and reviewed, and while some had been processed it could not be determined that all of the notifications had been processed. The threestep process described in the July 1st report has therefore been initiated for 72 boxes of violation notices recovered from the Concord archives, and, as of the close of business on July 3rd, an additional 168 suspensions for 130 unique drivers have been processed. The work of triaging those materials has begun and will continue through the weekend and until all suspensions are completed.

- Grant Thornton has been engaged to perform the External Audit to conduct an end-to-end forensic audit and process review of the process for receiving and acting on out-of-state notifications.
- The RMV has begun a reorganization to ensure that safety issues are elevated. This initiative will include the creation of a Deputy Registrar for Safety and the establishment of clear lines of responsibility for all driver licensing and enforcement functions that will be shifted to this senior manager.
- As reported in the July 1st Interim Report, we • A comprehensive review has been completed of all have addressed the software issue and reviewed



and cleared the queue of out of state CDLIS notifications. We are preparing draft legislation to make requirements to obtain and retain Commercial Drivers Licenses (CDL) more stringent.

• An initial test was successfully completed of the process for reviewing all Massachusetts licensure records against the National Driver Registry, establishing that such a review is possible. The National Driver Registry exchange will commence Monday, July 15th

#### MAYOR WALSH APPOINTS RYAN WOODS AS PARKS COMMISSIONER



ayor Martin J. Walsh appointed Ryan T. Woods as the next Commissioner of Boston Parks and Recreation. A veteran of the department, Woods has served in the

department since 2007 and will continue his service as the new leader for the department.

"Boston is a great parks city, and Ryan brings a wealth of internal and external experience to the role of Parks Commissioner," said Mayor Walsh. "I am confident he is the right person to build on the department's mission of access, equity, and excellence, and look forward to his continuing leadership."

As Commissioner, Woods will oversee more than 2,600 acres of neighborhood parks, playgrounds, tot lots, athletic facilities, city squares and urban wilds, as well as the City of Boston's inventory of public street trees. The Department also has jurisdiction over three active cemeteries, 16 historic burying grounds and two golf courses.

"I am very grateful for this op-

portunity to continue to work with the men and women of the Boston Parks and Recreation Department to create fun, safe and well maintained open spaces for Boston's residents and visitors to enjoy," said Woods.

During his tenure with the Boston Parks and Recreation department, Woods has held roles as the Public-Private Partnerships Coordinator, Program Manager, and Director of External Affairs. Recently, Woods served as Deputy Commissioner where he oversaw more than 800 free annual programs for residents, department communications, and parks operations.

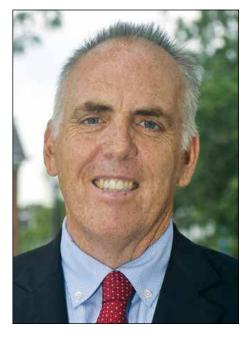
A graduate of St. Michael's College, Woods also holds a Master Degree in Public Administration from Suffolk University. He is a lifelong resident of Dorchester, where he lives with his wife Lauren, a Boston Police Officer, and their two boys.

Most recently, the Parks and Recreation Department celebrated the opening of Martin's Park, a first-of-its-kind inclusive, climate-resilient park at the Smith Family Waterfront. The department oversaw the project honoring Martin W. Richard, the youngest victim of the Boston Marathon bombings. Following continued investments in the parks system in Boston, last fall Mayor Walsh announced that Boston reached a major milestone in our accessibility to parks, with all Boston residents now living within a 10-minute walk to a park.

The former Parks Commissioner, Christopher Cook, was elevated last year to Chief of Environment, Energy and Open Space for the City of Boston.

# Councilor Flynn Calls For Hearing on TNC (Uber/Lyft) Issues in Boston Cites PickUp Drop Off Safety, Traffic, Sustainability & Consumer Protection

BOSTON - Boston City Councilor Ed Flynn called for a hearing at this week's Council meeting on issues related to Transportation Network Companies (TNCs), such as Uber and Lyft, operating in the City of Boston. Recognizing the integral role that TNCs now play in our overall transportation system, as well as the convenience they provide, the hearing will focus on concerns from residents regarding this evolving industry and measures to address traffic and congestion, public safety and Vision



Zero due to the lack of designated pick up and drop off areas, the environment, and consumer protection.

Recent data and research show:

- More than 42 million rides in Boston in 2018, or over 115,000 per day (DPU)
- A 21% increase from 2017 to 2018 in TNC rides that began in Boston, according to the Department of Public Utilities (DPU)
- 59% of all ride sharing trips are adding additional vehicles in our region, according to the Metropolitan Area

Planning Council

• Boston was rated worst in the nation with traffic and congestion, according to INRIX Global Traffic Scorecard released in 2019

Moreover, residents have highlighted concerns regarding public safety and Vision Zero due to reports of speeding vehicles, as well as the lack of designated pick up and drop off areas in the city; which has resulted in double parking or vehicles pulling over in the middle of the street and posing safety risks for all on the road. TNCs are also regulated by the Department of Public Utilities, while taxicabs are under the purview of the Hackney Division at the Boston Police Department.

This additional traffic also creates environmental concerns as the additional vehicles affect our air quality, increase carbon emissions, and run contrary to the goal of promoting sustainable transportation methods such as public transportation, biking, or walking. Residents have also called attention to consumer protection as prices jump significantly during sporting or city events, or when the MBTA breaks down.

The hearing will also discuss ways to leverage the demand to TNCs to

improve our transportation infrastructure, as well as regulations other cities have enacted on TNCs. New York City placed a cap on the number of TNCs in the city for one year, and established a minimum wage for drivers. Other municipalities have imposed fees on TNC rides, and cities like San Francisco have piloted geofencing at appropriate areas of the city to limit pickups, reduce congestion, and discourage double parking.

"I understand the key role TNCs play in our overall transportation network and the convenience they provide for many residents and visitors to the City of Boston. At the same time, the data clearly shows that they also belong in our discussions about traffic and sustainability," said Councilor Ed Flynn. "Residents have also expressed safety concerns about designated pick up/drop off areas and geofencing in appropriate locations. I look forward to having a robust discussion about the ways that the city can work with TNCs and use data to make our streets safer, less congested, and better for everyone."

For more information, please contact Councilor Flynn's office at 617-635-3203 or Ed.Flynn@Boston.gov.

#### Tatte Bakery Hub Planned For South Boston At Cole Hersee Site

ational Development announced today that Tatte Bakery will serve as the anchor tenant in the dynamic redevelopment of the former Cole Hersee building in South Boston's Dorchester Avenue corridor. Tatte's new bakery hub will include production space, a test kitchen, offices and a full Tatte café at 60-70 Old Colony Avenue. In this new space, Tatte will offer classes and workshops open to the public and have a viewing area of the production space which will serve all Tatte's Massachusetts locations as they undertake significant expansion. Tatte's new space totals nearly 30,000 SF and will create over 100 jobs.

National Development will undertake significant base building improvements to the former industrial buildings to repurpose them to retail ready. The redevelopment of Cole Hersee will provide space for an additional eight to ten additional restaurant and retail operators in a new dynamic ground floor. Overall, the project's

new restaurant and retail storefronts will total nearly 75K SF.

Tatte Bakery and Cafe, founded by self-taught pastry chef Tzurit Or in 2007, has rapidly grown across the greater Boston and Cambridge markets in the past decade and plans to expand to additional East Coast markets in the next year. The artisan bakery and cafe company selected this walkable and transitoriented section of South Boston to open its production space and headquarters, recognizing a demand in the neighborhood, access to great employees and economic benefits of having such a centrally located location for distribution.

"This location is perfect for our future growth," said Tzurit Or. "The opportunity to put a state-of-the-art production space here as well as expand our program to provide spaces that invite the public in to see and learn more about baking and how Tatte operates is just so exciting. It will be a bakery wonderland!"

"For close to a year now, we have

been meeting with the local neighborhoods and elected officials to hear their thoughts. This project is a direct reflection of that." said Ed Marsteiner, partner and director of acquisitions at National Development. "We are really excited to deliver on our goals of revitalization, job creation and authentic neighborhood amenities so early in the project."

National Development, along with AEW Capital Management on behalf of one of its funds, acquired the property bordered by Old Colony Avenue, West Seventh Street and D Street this spring from the former owners of the Cole Hersee Company. Local architecture and design firm Hacin+Associates will lead the design for façade improvements. Current tenants Rock Spot, an indoor climbing gym, Lapels, a dry cleaner, and the Tufts Medical Center Behavioral Health Program will remain.

"There is much more to come, at Cole Hersee and beyond, and we can't wait to share it with everyone in the neighborhood." Marsteiner added.

For over 25 years, National Develop-



ment has been one of the most active real estate investment and development firms in Massachusetts. Specializing in multi-family, commercial office, life science, mixed-use, retail, industrial, hotel and senior housing projects.

Founder Tzurit Or started Tatte Bakery & Café in 2007, baking 20 hours a day in her home kitchen and selling her delicious creations to Boston farmers' markets. After only one summer, Tatte expanded to its first brick-and-mortar bakery in Brookline, Massachusetts. She has since opened twelve Tatte cafes, each having its own individual sense of identity, feel and style but they all stay true to the original spirit. http://tattebakery.com/

#### BCYF TYNAN HAPPENINGS

n June 26, 2019, a group of BCYF Tynan Community Center youth were

lucky enough to have the opportunity to attend The Fishing Academy's "Summer Youth Fishing Summit Summer Kickoff" at the Boston Harbor Shipyard Marina in East Boston. We had a fun-filled day cruising around and reeling in striped bass followed by a cookout celebration with Boston Police. The Tynan's own, Anderson Wisniewski, received the "Dennis DJ Simmonds" Award for catching the third largest fish. This day would not have been made possible with-

out the Tynan's good pal and BCYF Vine Street Youth Worker, Al Smith, who has been a participant of the Fishing Academy for several years, and The Fishing Academy director, John Hoffman. It was a great day on the Harbor! See Pictures!









### BCYF Neighborhood Block Parties Kick Off July 18



ark your calendar and bring your friends and family to a fun and free Neighborhood Block Party and learn more about your neighborhood community centers! Select Thursday nights in July and August from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m., the BCYF Neighborhood Block Parties will offer a variety of free activities

including music, a cookout, activities, swimming (as indicated below), and resource tables from many City of Boston departments and other agencies with lots of great information to share and giveaways.

#### This summer's schedule is as follows:

July 18: BCYF Quincy Community Center, 885 Washington Street, Chinatown. Will be held at rooftop playground. (swimming)

#### July 25: BCYF Tynan Community Center, 650 East Fourth Street, South Boston

August 8: BCYF Marshall Community

Center, 35 Westville Street, Dorchester August 15: BCYF Menino Community Center, 125 Brookway Road, Roslindale

In the case of rain or other weather issues, please check BCYF's social media pages (@BCYFCenters) for updates. The Block Parties are generously supported by the Foundation for BCYF.

#### About Boston Centers for Youth and Families

Boston Centers for Youth & Families (BCYF) is the City of Boston's largest youth and human

service agency. BCYF operates 36 community centers in Boston that offer a variety of engaging and enriching programs for people of all ages created through community input and need. BCYF also oversees citywide programs including the nationally-recognized violence intervention and prevention Streetworker Program, the GIRLS Initiative, Camp Joy special needs program and many aquatic offerings. For information about all of BCYF's summer programs visit Boston.gov/BCYF-summer.

#### Susan McDonough Sworn in as New Commander at the McDonough Post

outh Boston's Martin F. Mc-Donough American Legion Post #368 located on West Broadway swore in its new commander recently. The ceremony was held at the post in a festive and upbeat atmosphere. United States Army veteran Susan McDonough took the oath and is looking forward to working hard to keep the organization as a positive resource that works with the veteran's community and in fact the South Boston neighborhood as a whole.

South Boston Today was there and had the honor and privilege to speak with McDonough and learn what her plans are for the future of the McDonough Post. It was plain to see, she brings a lot of energy to the group. She wants to encourage more young veterans to join in with the long-time members but makes it clear that all are welcome. Even non-veterans are welcome to take part in the post's activities and would be able to join in an auxiliary

status and associate members. This includes men and women.

There will be more activities taking place in the future; among them are live music performances at the post. In fact, on Thursday of this week there will be Irish music there from 6-9pm and again two weeks later on Thursday, July 25th, also from 6-9 pm. The Post will be available to help not only veterans who need assistance but also non-vets who may have emergencies too.

Commander Susan McDonough's active US Army background is 4 years based in Seattle, Washington and she also was deployed to Korea where she spent one year. After her active duty service was complete, she continued in the National Guard. She held the rank of Quarter Master.

The ceremony itself was attended

by several dignitaries who mingled with the crowd; among them were Francisco Urena, who is the Secretary of Veterans Affairs in Massachusetts presented Commander Mc-Donough with a challenge coin and gave the history of the significance. State Representative David Biele, also in attendance, presented new Commander Susan McDonough with a welcoming citation. Mc-Donough is the Second woman to be commander at the post. She is proud to serve in that capacity and reminded those in attendance of the McDonough Post's proud history. It was named in memory of Martin F. McDonough, who went down with his ship when it was hit by an enemy torpedo during World War 11. The ship was the USS Juneau.

continued on page 14











## McDonough continued from page 13 Martin McDonough was with the famous 5 Sullivan Brothers who al

famous 5 Sullivan Brothers who all perished together when the Light Cruiser sank.

The Martin F. McDonough Post will celebrate its 75th Anniversary in May of 2021. Its members over

the years have been a vital part of the South Boston Neighborhood throughout that entire time. Under the leadership of its new commander, Susan McDonough, it's a sure bet that it will continue to be and active and valuable organization well into the future.









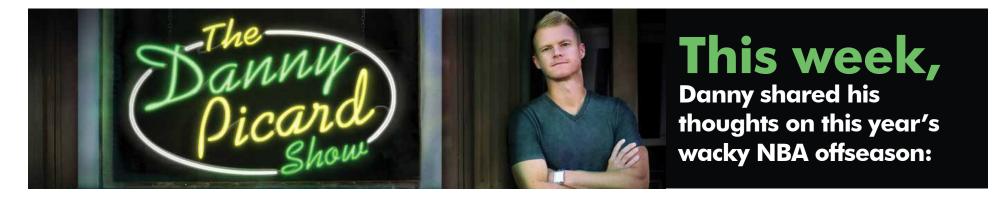
# GATE OF HEAVEN PARISH COFFEE AND CONVERSATION HOUR



All are welcome to join us on the
2nd Sunday of each month at the
Gate of Heaven Parish Coffee and Conversation
Hour, downstairs in the
Lower Hall, following the 9AM Mass
at Gate of Heaven Church on East 4th Street,
Looking forward to seeing old and new friends
this Sunday,

**JULY 14, 2019** 





he NBA offseason has been sitting on the Iron Throne of sports headlines for about a month now, maybe longer. There is nothing bigger going on in the world of sports right now than NBA superstars signing with new teams.

I mean no disrespect for the U.S. Women who won the Women's World Cup over the weekend. Congrats to them. And they should at least receive equal pay as the men, but probably higher pay than the men, because, after all, we live in a world of rewards, and the U.S. Women should be rewarded for their World Cup.

That said, I didn't watch a single second of that Women's World Cup. Not a single bleeping second. And again, no disrespect to the women. I wasn't taking a stand against women's soccer. I just can't watch soccer in general. Sure, I can entertain myself with a few games of FIFA 19 on my XBOX One, but that's about it.

I had to cover the New England Revolution for several years as a reporter. Credit to those players. They are true professional athletes. But it just wasn't for me. In fact, having to analyze the MLS kind of ruined the sport for me. Before that, I actually had interest in the World Cup, and even — to some extent — the Premier League. I also played a decent amount of soccer growing up, both Southie Youth Soccer and Southie travel soccer. But now I have zero interest in the sport altogether.

Anyways, I digress.

Not even a World Cup for the U.S. can steal the spotlight away from the NBA offseason. Every time you look, there's another All-Star player signing a max contract with a new team. We've even had a few blockbuster trades go down in recent weeks.

To name a few, here's a list of players who will be playing for different teams next season: Kawhi Leonard (Clippers), Paul George (Clippers), Kevin Durant (Nets), Kyrie Irving (Nets), Anthony Davis (Lakers), Jimmy Butler (Heat), DeMarcus Cousins (Lakers), Kemba Walker (Celtics) Al Horford (Sixers), D'Angelo Russell (Golden State). And by the time you read this, Russell Westbrook could also be added to the list.

The NBA should be embracing this type of drama. Instead, commissioner Adam Silver says he wants more "enforceable" free-agency rules, whatever that means.

At the NBA's annual conference in Las Vegas this week, Silver tried to go into detail on that enforcement:

"My sense in the room today was, es-

pecially when it comes to free agency and the rules around it, that we've got work to do. And as I said, it's still the same principles of fair balance of power and a sense that it's a level playing field. I think that's what teams want to know. I think they're put in difficult situations because when they're sitting across from a player and whether it's conversations that are happening earlier than they should or frankly things are being discussed that don't fall squarely within the collective bargaining agreement, it puts teams in a very difficult position because they are reading or hearing that other teams are doing other things to compete, and at the end of the day, that's what this league is about: competing for championships.

"My job is to enforce a fair set of rules for all our teams and a set of rules that are clear and make sense for everyone. I think right now we're not quite there."

So basically he's talking about tampering. And tampering, in this crazy technological world we live in, is impossible to stop, in any professional sports league.

If a player or GM or owner wants to communicate with somebody in a different organization, while under contract, then it's going to happen, whether Silver or any other league's commissioner likes it or not. Unless one of the two parties rats the other out, then tampering will continue to exist.

But should anyone even care? If Player A wants to go play with Player B or has made up his mind about wanting to leave City A to go play and live in City B, then how is anyone going to actually prevent that?

Davis is the perfect example. He had his mind set on playing in LA for the Lakers. So he asked for a trade a year-and-a-half before his contract was up in New Orleans. I can see why that would frustrate the Pelicans and the NBA, but at least he told them and they got something for him. He could've just kept his mouth shut and walked for nothing next summer.

Are we supposed to control where Davis wants to play? No. It's their decision, just like it was Danny Ainge's decision to trade Isaiah Thomas to Cleveland a few years ago.

The players have a right to choose where they want to play. And it's something the NBA is just going to have to accept, and eventually, embrace.

Listen to "The Danny Picard Show" at PodcastOne. Also available on iTunes, Spotify, and dannypicard. com. Subscribe to Danny's YouTube channel at youtube.com/dannypicard.









#### GRONKOWSKI WORKS OUT WITH BRADY IN CALIFORNIA

**SBT Staff** 

Rob Gronkowski has already announced his retirement from football. But since he's only 30 years old, that announcement has come with its fair share of skepticism.

Well, dial up the doubters yet again. Gronkowski was back on the football field with Tom Brady earlier this week, as the two worked out together on UCLA's campus on Monday. Gronkowski reportedly caught passes from Brady, and then confirmed the on-field workout by telling TMZ, "It was great working out. Tom needs someone to throw to, so you know, he calls Mr. Reliable Robby G the one and only."



The former Patriots tight end was in Los Angeles for a charity basketball game. But it could also be a sign that Gronkowski is starting to get that itch.

This isn't the first time a potential Gronkowski return has been speculated. Back in June, Bleacher Report's Mike Freeman reported that "few people, including sources on the Patriots, believe that [Gronkows-



ki is done with football]."

Freeman also said, "The belief is that once the season gets going, and Gronkowski starts missing football, he will rejoin the team.

**WHATTOWATCH** 

**NBA THURSDAY, JULY 11** 

Summer League Boston vs Memphis 10:30 P.M. ESPN2

MLB FRIDAY, JULY 12

LA Dodgers at Boston 7:10 P.M. NESN

**SATURDAY, JULY 13** 

LA Dodgers at Boston 7:15 P.M. FOX

**SUNDAY, JULY 14** 

LA Dodgers at Boston 7:05 P.M. ESPN

WWE SUNDAY, JULY 14

Extreme Rules
7 P.M. WWE Network/PPV

It's not just a hunch, sources say; you can count on it."

Perhaps Monday's workout with Brady has proven he's already starting to miss football.

#### **CLIPPERS SIGN LEONARD, TRADE FOR GEORGE**

SBT Staff

he Los Angeles Clippers shocked the basketball world over the Fourth of July weekend by signing Kawhi Leonard and trading for Paul George.

Leonard's four-year, \$141 million deal with the Clippers wasn't necessarily the shocking part, as he had been linked many times to the organization in the past. It was the trade for George that came as a major surprise, considering George had just signed a four-year, \$137 million deal to stay in Oklahoma City last summer, after being traded there from Indiana in the summer of 2017.

The Clippers gave Oklahoma City a total of five first-round picks and two pick swaps, along with point guard Shai Gilgeous-Alexander and Danilo Gallinari. Now, the only question for Oklahoma City is, what do they do with Russell Westbrook?

Westbrook signed a five-year, \$205 million contract with the Thunder before the 2017-18 season, which didn't begin until this past season, meaning he has four more years remaining on that contract. After George was traded to the Clippers, ESPN's Adrian Wojnarowski reported that Westbrook and his agent have been talking to Thunder general manager Sam Presti about a trade that would send Westbrook to a contending team. And according to Wojnarowski, both sides are "motivated to find a resolution sooner rather than later."

The Miami Heat are reportedly the favorite to land Westbrook in a trade, which would pair him with Jimmy Butler, who was acquired by Miami in a sign-and-trade last week.

#### **VERLANDER ACCUSES MLB OF JUICING BALLS**

SBT Staff

ouston Astros ace Justin Verlander was the starting pitcher for the American League in Tuesday night's All Star Game. But before the Midsummer Classic, he made headlines with his mouth, not his arm.

Verlander told ESPN on Monday that Major League Baseball has purposely "juiced" the baseballs this season. Here's his quote in the story from ESPN.com's Jeff Passan:

"It's a [expletive] joke. Major League Baseball's turning this game into a joke. They own Rawlings, and you've got Manfred up here saying it might be the way they center the pill. They own the [expletive] company. If any other \$40 billion company bought out a \$400 million company and the product changed dramatically, it's not a guess as to what happened. We all know what happened. Manfred, the first time he came in, what'd he say? He said we want more offense. All of a sudden he comes in, the balls are juiced? It's not coincidence. We're not idiots."

There have been a total of 3,691 home runs hit this season, prior to the All-Star break. The league is on pace to see nearly 7,000 total home runs by season's end. A new season-

high home-run record was reached in 2017, when there were a total of 6,105.

Even though he was the starting pitcher for the AL, Verlander has allowed an MLB-high 26 home runs this season. So that explains his frustrations.

Major League Baseball commissioner Rob Manfred denied Verlander's claims on Tuesday, but MLB did in fact purchase Rawlings Sporting Goods Company last summer for \$395 million. And for a league that's currently denying the intentional alteration of the baseballs, it sounded last summer as if MLB wanted more control of the production of those balls.

Following the purchase of Rawlings, MLB executive vice president for strategy, technology and innovation said, "MLB is excited to take an ownership position in one of the most iconic brands in sports and further build on the Rawlings legacy, which dates back to 1887. We are particularly interested in providing even more input and direction on the production of the official ball of Major League Baseball, one of the most important on-field products to the play of our great game."

Are the baseballs juiced? That's not for sure. But if they are, it seems certain that Major League Baseball would at least be approving the juicing.

