

# Gillette Property Will Mix Housing, Offices, Research Labs



Related Beal, the Boston-based real-estate development arm of New York’s Related Cos., formally proposed a

1.1 million-square-foot mixed-use development adjacent to the Gillette World Shaving headquarters in South Boston.

Related Beal acquired 6.5 acres of surface parking lots from The Procter & Gamble Co., which owns Gillette, this past spring for \$218 million and tapped architecture firm Kohn Pedersen Fox Associates to develop a master plan.

In a Nov. 18 letter of intent to the Boston Planning and Development Agency, Related Beal President Kimberly Sherman Stamler said the company is planning three buildings:

- A 366,000-square-foot, 180-foot residential building;
- A 334,000-square-foot, 180-foot office; and
- A 400,000-square-foot, 123-foot lab/research and development building.

The letter of intent is the first step

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# EDITORIAL

## Nice Work By Law Enforcement Personnel

We've stated as much before but giving credit where and when it's deserved is the right thing to do. We speak of the great job that law enforcement has been doing around the city as a whole, but especially here in our neighborhood. It was just 3 weeks ago, when the combined efforts and cooperation of the Boston Police, the Massachusetts State Police and the DEA took down an alleged major drug ring here in South Boston. Several days ago, other suspects were arrested by the same combination of forces in what

police say was a plan to sell guns near the Murphy Skating Rink on Day Blvd. Excellent detective work, good surveillance techniques and neighbors calling in tips, all came together to get these jobs done.

Police are on constant patrol searching for the culprits, who have been stealing delivered packages from door steps in nearly every part of the community and the job of these thieves has gone from being an easy cake walk with easy pickings to one no longer without peril for the crooks. Here again, with neighbors on the lookout willing to make those

911 calls, it is a big help to our local law enforcement.

It has been said that being a cop is not the same as it was when police were respected years ago. And that is certainly the case in some cities. But thankfully, that's not the way it is in South Boston. Here, the job our law enforcement personnel are doing is very much appreciated. We can let them know that by continuing to assist them with call-in tips. And just like we encourage our active military and our veterans, saying 'Thank You for Your Service' to our police officers as well would also be a nice gesture.



*"Singing in the shower is all fun and games, until you get shampoo in your mouth. Then it just becomes a soap opera" - Rodney Dangerfield*

## Susan McDonough Chosen As The 117th Chief Marshal

The South Boston Allied War Veterans Council is proud to announce that the 117th Chief Marshal, for the 2020 South Boston St. Patrick's Day / Evacuation Day Parade is Susan McDonough. Susan is a South Boston native, a US Army veteran, a member of the Women Veterans' Network Steering Committee under the Massachusetts Department of Veterans' Services, serves as Commander of the Martin F. McDonough Post #368, and is a member of the South Boston Allied War Veterans Council.

Information regarding the Chief Marshal's Banquet will be forthcoming in the weeks ahead. Stay tuned for updates in South Boston Today!



Councilor Ed Flynn joined Mayor Marty Walsh, Rep. David Biele, Treasurer Deb Goldberg, and Susan McDonough, Commander of the Martin F. McDonough American Legion Post 368, at the Condon School last weekend for the City's "Operation Thank A Veteran". Dozens of volunteers performed outreach about services and programs available to Veterans and Military Families throughout South Boston. Treasurer Goldberg also highlighted the Welcome Home Bonus available to Veterans following their deployment.

**SouthBostonTODAY**  
Online • On Your Mobile • At Your Door

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# The Information Center

## Snowflakes, Triggers and Safe Spaces

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY

John Ciccone

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

America can thank the Lord that not all of the nation's youth are so sensitive, where the slightest thing out of their comfort zones terrifies them or as it's put now, 'triggers' them.

It was just 2 weeks ago, on Veterans Day, that a few students, also known as 'snowflakes' on the University of Virginia campus demanded that the annual and traditional 21 gun salute in honor of all veterans be cancelled because it would scare them and make them feel unsafe. The school administration, like those heading up so many colleges today, could not locate their back bones and immediately buckled to these demands. Bear in mind, this 21 Gun Salute has been going on for decades at that school and it's said that the majority of students and certainly the alumni and veterans' groups are in favor of it. But, because a few whiners protested, it must come to an end. So, this year it was cancelled. But the backlash was so intense over this decision, that the University has promised that they would bring back the 21 Gun Salute next year and keep it as the cherished tradition that it is to the over whelming majority. This is what happens when people stand up to for what's right and not allow a few disgruntled haters of all things American get their way. Let them find a 'Safe Space' if honoring our veterans frightens them.

Recently in Durham, NH, the town's annual Christmas tree lighting was cancelled because a few Christmas haters complained that they were offended by the religious connection to the holiday season that they insist the lighting of a tree highlights. Here again, a few people complain, so those

in charge run scared and cancel what has been a long standing and cherished event, especially loved by families with young children. They even want the name of the event changed to 'Frost Fest'. It's not even Thanksgiving yet and the anti-Christian bigots are out working hard to ruin the Christmas season for everyone else. This decision didn't set well with most New Hampshire residents, once the story hit the news outlets up there, and here too a backlash is building.

It should come as no surprise to anyone that the town of Durham is located near the University of New Hampshire and like most colleges is infested/infected with left leaning Socialist professors and mind numbed students, many from out of state, who follow these 'educator's' every command. The separation of Church and State argument that Christmas haters have been using in court cases to erase the holiday, is no longer winning. So those decision makers in these colleges and towns cow-towing to the complainers do not have to worry. They should be reminded that Christmas has been a recognized and legal federal holiday, designated as such by the Government of the United States of America since 1870 and remains so to this day. So, there is nothing – absolutely nothing illegal or unconstitutional about a Christmas tree, Santa Claus and even a Nativity Scene being displayed on public property. Here again, if the lighting of a Christmas tree triggers, traumatizes, frightens or offends you, it's time to either toughen up, grow up or just not attend the event. It's a safe bet you won't be missed.

Colin Kaepernick is in the news

again, and it looks like this time his antics may have finally sealed his fate as far as playing in the NFL. He demanded the NFL give him a special practice session, because he is, after all, so special in his mind. He refused to show up at the scheduled location and moved it to a different place. He wore a political shirt to make his statement of the week on why he is so oppressed and used it all as a publicity stunt. Even left-wing commentators from ESPN have had enough of this guy with Stephen Smith stating, "He

doesn't want to play; he just wants to be a martyr".

And finally, when Barack Obama says the Democrat candidates for President are moving too far to the left, you know they must be 'off the chart' loons. But no one should be fooled by Obama's words. Because the translation is – don't let slip what your real plans are, because you'll scare voters away. Pretend to be moderate so you have a better chance of winning. Then once elected, get as crazy left as you really are.

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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.

### ‘Seeing Red’: The state’s worsening traffic nightmare

The Globe’s Spotlight Team scores again. This time by simply digging into the numbers to show just how bad traffic congestion has gotten in Greater Boston – and why. Some of the data the team has unearthed: The region has 300,000 more cars and trucks on the roads than it did just five years ago; there 74,000 additional jobs in Suffolk County compared to five years ago and employees have to get into Boston somehow – and the vast majority of motorists drive all alone to work, surprise, surprise. Bottom line: The state’s roadway system was simply not designed for such heavy usage. Btw, the sub-headline on the “Seeing Red” package: “Epic traffic paralyzes the region as gridlock grips the halls of power.”

### Regional carbon pricing: Far from a sure thing

One of the ways the state hopes to raise funds to address the traffic-congestion problem in Massachusetts is via a new regional carbon pricing plan that the Baker administration has been touting. But SHNS’s Matt

Murphy reports that a regional agreement may be difficult to achieve. New Hampshire and Vermont leaders are skeptical about the plan. Other states are sitting on the sidelines as talks proceed. And, well, we’ll see. If an agreement isn’t reached, it may back to the gas-tax drawing board, something Mass High Tech’s Chris Anderson has been desperately trying to avoid, as Commonwealth magazine reported yesterday.

### Rite of passage? One of Orange Line’s new train cars derails

Don’t panic. It doesn’t appear to be the fault of one of the new Orange Line cars. Or that’s the impression we get from Danny McDonald’s story at the Globe on the derailment of one of the T’s new Orange Line cars as it traveled slowly through the Wellington rail yards. No passengers were aboard and no one was hurt. In other T notes, from Commonwealth magazine: “Commuter rail on-time performance takes dive.” From SHNS (pay wall): “MBTA will ‘be there’ for riders this winter, Baker assures.” Also from SHNS (pay wall): “MBTA retirement fund investing more

assets through PRIT.” And finally, from Commonwealth: “T launches PR offensive on repair work.”

### How Warren lost Massachusetts on health care

At first, we thought Liz Goodwin and Lev Facher’s piece at the Globe was going to be just another Warren-has-evolved-on-health-care story. It’s not. They focus on how, among other things, Warren’s surprise opposition to the 21st Century Cures Act in December 2016 was a turning point in her changing views on health care – and in her relationship with the state’s life-science sector.

Btw, no coverage of Warren this morning would be complete without this headline: “Elizabeth Warren blasts private equity firm over Taylor Swift songs” (Bloomberg News at the Globe).

### Deval Patrick: Centrist knight to the rescue?

There are lots of news and punditry items out there related to former Gov. Deval Patrick’s surprise entry into the Democratic presidential race. First, David Bernstein, the long-time politi-

cal reporter who now mostly writes for WGBH and Boston Magazine, has a NYT op-ed trying to explain Patrick to the rest of the nation. Bottom line: Given a chance on the stump, Patrick may surprise many, Bernstein writes.

But what caught our attention is the focus on Patrick’s more centrist message – at least compared to the progressive views of Elizabeth Warren and Bernie Sanders. From the NYT: “How Moderates Are Seizing the Moment in the Democratic Primary.” Meanwhile, Rahm Emanuel, the former mayor of Chicago, Democratic congressman and Obama chief of staff, has an opinion piece at the Washington Post welcoming the candidacies of “traditional liberals” like Patrick and Michael Bloomberg, who he says are needed to counter the “far left” calls for a redistribution of wealth. At the Herald, Jeff Robbins is comparing Patrick to a unifying RFK. But the Globe’s Joan Vennoch writes that Patrick’s public and private lives, including past controversies involving Ameriquest and his brother-in-law, are fair game in this election, whether Patrick likes it or not.

## Letter To The Editor

Hello Southie Neighbors,

The way that South Boston’s main streets are set up today make it easy for drivers to drive dangerously, creating unsafe conditions for pedestrians. I was hit by a car, as a pedestrian, walking in the crosswalk in Southie last February and am frustrated by what I see as car-centered traffic management. Car drivers have a sense of entitlement to the road that makes walking around the neighborhood treacherous in some places. Fortunately, there are several streets that can be quickly, easily, and inex-

pensively made safer if our elected officials know that there’s neighborhood support for the changes.

Most of the traffic safety problems in Southie are caused by the high rates of speed that a lot of cars use when they travel through Southie. The width of East and West Broadway made sense when there were trolleys on them, but now their lanes are wide enough to encourage speeds of at least 35 miles per hour. Drivers drive as fast as they feel safe going on a road. Wider streets make speeding feels safer. To make Southie safer for pedestrians we have to narrow road widths.

It’s also clear that there’s no need for more than one lane in each direction on East and West Broadway. Southie residents dem-

onstrate this every day when they pull over in the right hand lane and double park, blocking an entire lane often during rush hour. In the absence of adequate enforcement, these lanes should be eliminated. Instead they should be used to make biking, rollerblading, skateboarding, etc. safer by providing a separate “slow lane.”

Summer Street has an even worse speed problem. Between East Broadway and the reconstructed section in Fort Point, Summer Street feels like a pass-through highway. Cars speed 99% of the time and often go more than 45 miles per hour. Because it looks and feels like a highway, drivers travel at highway speeds. And yet almost all of them are cutting through Southie

and will end up on slow and narrow L Street. Drivers feel like they should be driving at highway speeds through Southie because that’s what they were just doing coming from downtown. That makes their behavior less safe once they’re at L Street. Narrowing the Summer Street lanes to restrict cars to a more safe speed will help pedestrians, bicyclists, and everyone else be safer all the way from South Station to the Curley Community Center.

To anyone who supports narrowing road widths, please consider reaching out to our city councilors and other elected officials to say so. We shouldn’t have to experience another injury or death caused by unsafe driving.

-Kara



## SENATOR NICK COLLINS AND COLLEAGUES PASS PHARMA TRANSPARENCY LEGISLATION

### *PACT Act Will Protect Seniors, Reduce Prescription Drug Costs, and Increase Patient Access*

State Senator Nick Collins and The Massachusetts State Senate passed An Act relative to Pharmaceutical Access, Costs and Transparency (PACT Act), a comprehensive pharmaceutical cost control bill aimed at addressing the high and rapidly increasing costs of prescription drugs. By connecting the need for greater drug price transparency with policies to improve oversight over the pharma-

ceutical industry, the legislation will put Massachusetts at the forefront of the state's efforts to tackle increasing drug costs. It will also reduce drug costs to patients and lower health care costs overall.

"Rising costs of health care, and specifically prescriptions, is a burden to seniors, patients and their families all across the State," said Senator Nick Collins. "From seniors, to those living with diabetes and other conditions requiring frequent medication, this legislation will reduce barriers to affordable treatment, and ensure transparency and accountability in the pharmaceutical industry."

High drug prices act as barriers to

patients, who often cannot access the medications they need due to prohibitive costs. The PACT Act contains enhanced accountability tools to address these barriers.

The legislation offers immediate price relief for insulin—a life sustaining drug for the one in 10 Massachusetts residents living with diabetes who must take it daily or else face substantial health risks and complications. Consumers have recently been experiencing sharp insulin price increases, resulting in out-of-pocket costs that can easily reach \$1,000 or more per year for someone who is in a high-deductible plan or underinsured. This financial burden often forces

a person to engage in the dangerous practice of severely limiting or forgoing altogether the use of insulin. To address this problem, the PACT Act limits out-of-pocket spending by eliminating deductibles and coinsurance for insulin and capping co-pays at \$25 per month.

The Senate also championed the inclusion of provisions in the FY2020 budget to allow MassHealth to directly negotiate supplemental drug rebates to save the state millions of dollars each year. The PACT Act takes several more important steps forward to rein in drug costs and improve patient access throughout the health care system.

The legislation now moves to the House of Representatives for consideration. To track the progress of the bill, visit <https://malegislature.gov/Bills/191/S2397>.

### *REP. BIELE FILES LEGISLATION TO ATTRACT LIVE THEATER PRODUCTIONS TO MASSACHUSETTS*

#### *Bill would create a pilot program for Pre-Broadway and National Tour productions*

BOSTON – Earlier this session, State Representative David Biele filed legislation aimed at bringing Pre-Broadway and National Tour live theater productions to Massachusetts.

The bill, H.4149 An Act establishing a live theater pilot program, would create a five-year pilot program to incentivize Pre-Broadway and National Tour productions to launch in Massachusetts. The term "pre-Broadway" refers to theater productions that test out and refine shows before going to Broadway. "National Tour" productions are shows that have completed a run on Broadway and are in high demand.

Historically, Massachusetts was once the top destination for Pre-Broadway and National Tour launches. However, in recent years several states have established incentive programs that have drawn these productions away from Massachu-

setts, with those states experiencing an increase in economic impact from those productions, in terms of job creation as well as hospitality and tourism industries.

When productions arrive in the state, they spend days and up to a week or more 'loading in' to set-up the show, a labor-intensive process. Typically, show performers, crew and staff perform over a period of weeks before the show has to load out. During that time there is significant spending locally by the show, including both cast members and ticket goers.

For example, when Moulin Rouge! launched in Massachusetts last year, it was first Pre-Broadway production in the state since 2005. In terms of economic impact, Moulin Rouge resulted in \$2.93 million spent on labor, from set-up to load-out, over the course of 17-weeks.

In addition to creating jobs, Moulin Rouge! sold over 51,800 tickets, with 53% of ticket buyers living outside Massachusetts, including visitors from 49 countries. Based on the data collected, those who attended Moulin Rouge! spent an estimated \$4 million on restaurants and an estimated \$465,000 on hotels.

"Arts, culture, and tourism are powerful economic engines in Massachusetts," said Rep. Biele. "These Pre-Broadway and National Tour productions are happening and will continue to happen. Eliminating our state's competitive disadvantage with an incentive program will help bring these shows back to Massachusetts, creating blue-collar jobs for residents and in-

creasing economic activity in hotels, restaurants, local businesses and sightseeing from those attending the show."

The legislation was heard by the Joint Committee on Revenue at a

public hearing last week, and was co-sponsored by 18 members of the Legislature from across the state.

The bill is now under consideration by the Joint Committee.

The Joseph Nee South Boston Collaborative Center would like to say

# THANK YOU

to everyone that attended our Comedy Night.

**Congratulations** to Robert Pacitti this year's recipient of the Darlene Sheehan Beacon of Hope Award.

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# Home for the Holidays: When We See How Our Senior Loved Ones are Really Doing

By Jenna Petrenko, Executive Director at Compass on the Bay

**H**oliday visits can often serve as a wake-up call for adult children who realize that living home alone may not be the best option. Although it can be tough to face the reality that elderly relatives may be more frail or forgetful than the last time you visited, it can be a great opportunity to think about making a change for the better.

Look for these signs as you visit with elder loved ones to determine whether it's time to suggest a move to a more supportive living arrangement.

**1. Check the mail:** The mail offers clues to how your loved one is managing money, a common warning sign of cognitive trouble. Look for snow drifts of mail, unopened bills, letters from banks or creditors, and thank-you messages from charities.

**2. Look for changes in appearance:** While some clues are visible

from a distance, like unexplained bruising or obvious weight loss or gain, giving a physical hug can also point out changes from your last visit, like increased frailty.

**3. Check the medicine cabinet:** Individuals over 65 take an average of 14 prescriptions a year and those over 80 are prescribed, on average, 19 different medications yearly. That can be a lot to keep track of! Medication errors are among the leading causes of hospitalization in older adults. Look for expired, discontinued or duplicate prescription bottles.

**4. Inspect the kitchen:** Because people spend much time here, this room is especially revealing. Look for expired perishables, multiples of the same item, a freezer full of frozen dinners, broken appliances, or signs of past fire.

**5. Walk around the house and**

**yard:** Lack of maintenance may mean that your loved one isn't faring well at home alone. Look for clutter, lax housekeeping, grimy bathrooms, signs of neglect, and mail piled up in their mailbox.

**6. Observe their social life:**

Social circles can shrink with age, which can have adverse health and safety implications. Look for signs of isolation, which can include days spent without leaving the house, less talk about interests or hobbies, and lack of friends to socialize with.

**7. Take a drive:** Ask your loved one to take you out for a spin. On their vehicle, look for dents or other signs of prior accidents. While on the road, notice any signs of being easily distracted, impaired driving, or dashboard warning lights.

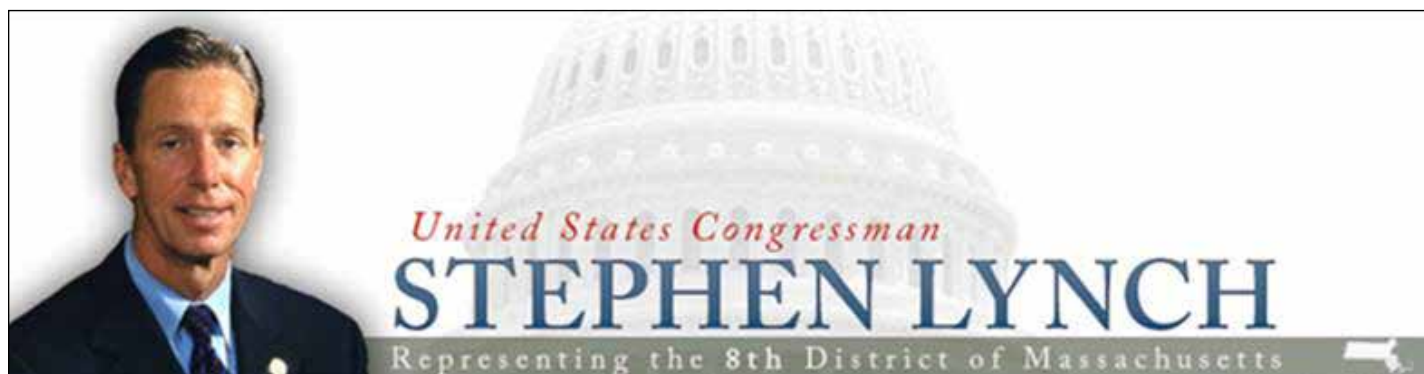
Encouraging a parent to move to a senior community can be stressful. It's important to note that Assisted Living does not mean a loss of independence, but rather is designed to maximize autonomy within a supportive environment. Residents are given choices that celebrate their individuality and allow them to



thrive. Your Mom or Dad will enjoy a safe, comfortable, social lifestyle and you'll spend less time worrying and more time enjoying your times together when you visit.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to me at Compass on the Bay with any questions about assisted living. We are happy to guide you through the research process, help sort out financial issues, and provide the information you need so that you can make the best decision for your family.

(Jenna Petrenko is the Executive Director at Compass on the Bay in South Boston, a senior community dedicated exclusively to those with memory loss, from Mild Cognitive Impairment to Alzheimer's disease and other dementias. Learn more at [www.CompassOnTheBay.com](http://www.CompassOnTheBay.com).)



## MA Congressional Delegation Pushes Back On Trump Administration SNAP Cuts

*Proposed Change Disproportionately Impacts States With High Heating and Utility Costs*

**R**epresentative Stephen F. Lynch (MA-08) joined the Massachusetts' Congressional Delegation in a letter to the United States Department of Agriculture urging the Trump Administration to reconsider a proposed rule that would strip states of their flexibility to set "Standard Utility Allowances"

(SUAs) using information based on local utility costs. Congressman James P. McGovern (MA-02), Chairman of the House Rules Committee, led the state's Congressional Delegation letter, which was also joined by Senators Elizabeth Warren and Edward J. Markey, and Representatives Richard E. Neal (MA-

01), William R. Keating (MA-09), Joseph P. Kennedy III (MA-04), Katherine M. Clark (MA-05), Seth Moulton (MA-05), Ayanna Pressley (MA-07), and Lori Trahan (MA-03).

"Massachusetts will lose nearly 9 percent of its SNAP benefits annually, which translates into over \$100 million annual nutrition dollars," wrote the delegation in their letter to Secretary Sonny Perdue. "The Administration's proposed rule on SUAs will have a disproportionately adverse effect on SNAP households that include an elder or disabled member as well as working families with children, triggering an average SNAP cut of nearly \$45 per month. These are households that struggle not only with high cost-of-liv-

ing and utility costs, but also expensive food costs and unreimbursed medical expenses while they struggle to remain in their homes and communities."

Currently, states have the option to combine rent or homeownership costs with a "Standard Utility Allowance" when calculating SNAP benefits to account for state-to-state differences in utility costs.

The proposed rule would disproportionately impact an estimated 200,000 Massachusetts families due to the high cost of utilities in the New England region – in particular natural gas, propane, and home heating oil.

This proposed rule is the third regulation proposed by the Trump Administration that would limit state flexibility and cut core nutrition benefits for American citizens. The Administration's own analysis states that the net impact of this proposed change will cut \$4.5 billion in nutrition dollars over the five-year period of 2021-2025.

Nationally, researchers have estimated that the health-related costs of food insecurity total to \$160 billion each year—in Massachusetts alone, which amounts to \$2.4 billion annually.



## Councilors Flynn & Flaherty Meeting On Senior Home Repairs Program



Boston City Councilor Ed Flynn & Councilor At-Large Michael Flaherty, in partnership with the Department of Neighborhood Development (DND) and the Boston Home Center, will be holding an informational meeting on senior home repair programs offered by the city. The meeting will be held on December 7th at 11am in the South Boston Library. This event will serve as an opportunity for residents to learn more about programs such as Seniors Save and the Senior Home Repair. These programs are for eligible seniors who can obtain 0% interest loans to replace aging heating systems, or to make repairs on their homes. The Boston Home Center and Boston Department of Neighborhood Development will discuss the application process and

provide information on these programs to interested residents.

“Seniors Save and Senior Home Repair are valuable programs offered by the city to help our seniors stay safely and comfortably in their homes,” said the Councilors in a joint statement. “Thank you to the Department of Neighborhood Development and the Boston Home Center for your commitment to our seniors and your partnership. I will continue to work closely with our city departments and residents to raise awareness about available resources and programs.”

For more information, please contact Councilor Flynn’s office at 617-635-3203 and [Ed.Flynn@Boston.gov](mailto:Ed.Flynn@Boston.gov), or Councilor Flaherty at 617-635-4205 and [Michael.Flaherty@boston.gov](mailto:Michael.Flaherty@boston.gov).

## Councilor Flynn Update on Short Term Rental Hearing

Boston City Councilor Ed Flynn held a hearing on the implementation of the Short Term Rentals (Airbnb) Ordinance at the Boston City Council. The aim of the hearing was to discuss any potential issues or loopholes that may exist regarding enforcement of the ordinance and the removal of investor units or large corporations. The hearing brought together city officials, advocates, and residents to discuss the implementation and impacts of the Short Term Rental Ordinance. At the hearing, Inspectional Services Department (ISD) Commissioner Dion Irish testified that an investor property at 796 East 4th St that was brought to ISD’s attention by Councilor Flynn’s office as non-owner occupied, has since been deactivated from the city’s database.

Held on November 14th, the hearing was co-sponsored by Councilor Michelle Wu and Councilor Lydia Edwards. Councilor Flynn and advocates spoke about instances of ineligible short term rental operators still operating in advance of the December 1st deadline, as well as recent cases where companies are

attempting to convert units to executive suites. Administration officials spoke about the process of registering short term rental units, how the Inspectional Services Department (ISD) enforces the ordinance, as well as relevant data so far in terms of compliance.

In the hearing, Councilor Flynn also spoke about proof of residence and owner occupancy required to obtain a short term rental permit, and whether there are ways to strengthen the Primary Residence evidence. So far, there are roughly 1,500 applications for short term rental permits, with approximately 600 approved. ISD testified that they continue to enforce the ordinance and investigate complaints about ineligible units.

“Thank you the residents of Boston and housing advocates who came to testify about the impact of short term rental investor units and large corporations on our housing stock and the quality of life in our neighborhoods,” said Councilor Flynn. “Enforcement is key for our city moving forward. I will continue to work closely with city officials and residents to ensure that our communities are protected from the negative impacts of non-owner occupied, short term rental investor units.”

For more information or to report non-owner occupied units, please contact Councilor Flynn’s office at 617-635-3203 or at [Ed.Flynn@Boston.gov](mailto:Ed.Flynn@Boston.gov).

**Gillette continued from front page**

in formally pitching a project to city planning and development officials.

Local elected officials say further development needs to focus on affordable housing rather than the super-lux apartments, condos and storefronts that have proliferated around the South Boston waterfront. “We don’t need any more luxury condo units — that’s for sure,” said at-large City Councilor Michael Flaherty, who’s from Southie. We have a responsibility to get things right. We have a responsibility to create a neighborhood where people can live and work in Boston.”

Flaherty and State Rep. David Biele, who represents the area in the Legislature, both stressed the importance of the plan including good green space open to the public. Biele said the proposal should follow the guidelines laid down by the 100 Acre Master Plan, a document created more than a decade ago to govern the development of much of the Fort Point neighborhood including these parcels. “Transportation’s going to be key,” Biele added. “There’s a lot of traffic congestion already on our streets.”

Ed Flynn, the Boston City Councilor whose district includes South Boston, said he’s been hearing questions and concerns about housing and transportation from residents about this project, which the developer had begun to bring to community meetings last month.

“We’re in the midst of a housing crisis,” Flynn said. “We need to focus especially on affordable units. We need to help keep our working families in the city.”

In the letter, Stamler emphasized the project’s focus on sustainability and resiliency, and said the project will work “in concert with other city, state and federal agencies to provide area-wide flood protection as part of the Climate Ready South Boston Initiative.” Related Beal anticipates developing the three buildings simultaneously and having buildings ready for occupancy by mid-2024. One of the trends in Boston-area real estate right now—and for the foreseeable future—is the development and marketing of lab and office space for life sciences firms.

Related Beal is well-known in Boston development circles as the driving force behind projects such as Converse’s Lovejoy Wharf headquarters, Congress Square, and the luxury residential towers the Clarendon and One Back Bay. The firm’s projects have run the gamut from commercial, retail, life sciences, and residential to mixes of these and more. It was also the developer behind the Beverly near North Station, which Related Beal called “the largest new construction of affordable and workforce housing in downtown Boston in more than a quarter-century.”

# The Wine Guy

## Birds and Bottles

**P**ierre Sparr Riesling, Alsace, France, 2018, (\$17.99), Maison Pierre Sparr was established by the Sparr family in 1680 in the desirable Haut Rhin. Today quality remains Pierre Sparr's primary focus and the winery consistently exceeds AOC guidelines (Alsace produces only AOC level wines). Minimal intervention in the winery preserves the characteristics of the land; gentle whole cluster pressing followed by slow, cool fermentation. Sparkling wines are all traditional

"method" (as in Champagne). The grapes are farmed sustainably. Pierre Sparr wines are a pure expression of Alsace with its varied geology and topography; authentically Alsatian wines - aromatic, fruity, elegant, clean and vibrant. Not only great with Turkey dinner, but with lots of desserts, too.

**Cloudy Bay Sauvignon Blanc, Marlborough, New Zealand, 2019, (\$24.99).** Established in 1985, Cloudy Bay is a partnership between champagne house Veuve Clicquot Ponsardin and co-founder of Cape Mentelle Vineyards in Western Australia, David Hohnen. The Cloudy Bay team is committed to producing 'wines of region' and strives to enhance the pure, bracing flavors naturally afforded by the climate and soils of Marlborough. The winery and vineyards are situated in the Wairau Valley in Marlborough at the northern end of New Zealand's South Island. This unique and cool wine region enjoys a maritime climate with the longest hours

of sunshine of any place in New Zealand. This Sauvignon Blanc is a classic-dry, as it should be, but with a delicious aftertaste of ripe melons and pears. If you've got Chestnut stuffing on your plate, have a forkful and a sip of this-beautiful!

**Pahlmeyer Jayson Chardonnay, Napa Valley, North Coast, 2016, (\$56.99),** Jayson Pahlmeyer has been producing highly sought-after wines since 1986. It began with Jayson's dream to make world-class Bordeaux-style wine from the Napa Valley. Pahlmeyer's estate vineyard - Waters Ranch - is situated at 2100 feet in the Atlas Peak appellation of Napa Valley, is the key source for their Chardonnay. This wine has a light straw color and generous aromas of honeydew melon with hints of white flower, raw walnuts, toasted almond and vanilla. This beauty is full bodied and richly textured and delivers ample complexity around its strong additional flavors of hazelnut and vanilla.

If you're going to toast friends



and family before the feast, fill your glasses with Mumm Napa Brut Rose, NV, Napa, California, (\$24.99). A hearty 80% Pinot Noir dominates in this sparkler, rounded out with 20% Chardonnay. With a pink-salmon hue, it offers peach and wild strawberry aromas followed by similar, medium-bodied flavors, with the addition of succulent plum. Part of the wine is initially fermented in the press, producing the soft fruity character that gives Brut Rosé its directness, while a small percentage of Chardonnay gives the wine power and structure.

Don't forget to be thankful for new babies, old friends and all the family at your table once again.

**Talk to The Wine Guy at**  
jdris8888@gmail.com

## The South Boston Christmas Stroll

**Thursday,  
December 5th  
starting at  
4:00pm**

**G**et ready to start your Christmas shopping locally and celebrate the Holiday Season! On Thursday,

December 5th take part in the South Boston Christmas Stroll! This free, fun-filled event starts at 4pm. Business establishments will be open until various times. Sip, Shop and Dine your way around South Boston. Enjoy one night of incredible savings at more than 40 local retail establishments, restaurants, salons and more along East and West Broadway. Splurge at participating busi-

nesses that will be displaying a Big Red Bow!

This year's Christmas Stroll will include:

- The Original Dickens Carolers will be strolling along East and West Broadway starting at 4:00pm
- Free hot chocolate & holiday treats will be served – Sponsored by Jack Conway Cityside Real Estate
- Free Magic show at 4:00pm – at Bringing up Baby (663 East Broadway)
- A visit from Santa (arriving on an antique Fire Truck) at 5:00p.m
- The East Broadway tree lighting - taking place at 5:30 p.m. outside of the South Boston Library
- Feel free to take your own pictures with Santa inside of the South Boston Library
- Free Pedi Cabs will be available to transport attendees along East and West Broadway from 6:00-8:00pm.



**South Boston Christmas Stroll**  
Thursday, December 5th • East and West Broadway

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Recent South Boston Real Estate Sales					
Property/Type	Price	Sale Date	Rooms	Baths	Sq Ft
300 Pier 4 Blvd UNIT 8F Condo	\$2,999,940	8/1/19	5	2	1,569
25 Channell Center St UNIT Ph202 Condo	\$1,645,000	8/1/19	6	2	1,528
195 West Second Street Townhouse	\$1,575,000	8/9/19	5	3	1,725
25 Channell Center St UNIT 204 Condo	\$1,550,000	8/2/19	6	2.5	2,077
281 Bowen Street Two Family	\$835,000	8/1/19	11	2	2,056
725 East Sixth St UNIT 2 Condo	\$755,000	8/2/19	4	2	1,044
15 Preble St UNIT 7 Condo	\$740,000	8/2/19	5	2	933
9 Liberty Place UNIT 3 Condo	\$725,000	8/8/19	5	2	1,067
211 L St UNIT 1 Condo	\$705,000	8/2/19	4	2	1,121
346 Congress St UNIT 408 Condo	\$690,000	8/2/19	3	1	683
734 East Second St UNIT 3 Condo	\$630,000	8/2/19	5	1.5	906
63 Melcher St UNIT 4G Condo	\$625,000	8/8/19	1	1	532
66 Athens St UNIT 1 Condo	\$580,000	8/6/19	4	1.5	717
59 Gates St UNIT 3 Condo	\$545,000	8/1/19	4	1	1,276
121 M St UNIT 2 Condo	\$480,000	8/8/19	3	1	527
320 West Second St UNIT 206 Condo	\$440,000	8/1/19	2	1	426

Public Meeting

# 15 Necco Street

Monday, December 2  
6:00 PM

300 A Street  
1st Floor  
Boston, MA 02210

**Project Description:**


BPDA-hosted Article 80 Public Meeting to discuss the proposed Notice of Project Change and Fifth Amendment to the Master Plan for Planned Development Area No. 69, South Boston/The 100 Acres for the 5 and 15 Necco Street Project, which comprises an approximately 2.7-acre site in the Fort Point neighborhood of Boston, and for which the General Electric (GE) Headquarters Project was previously slated for construction.

mail to: **Aisling Kerr**  
Boston Planning & Development Agency  
One City Hall Square, 9th Floor  
Boston, MA 02201  
phone: 617.918.4212  
email: aisling.kerr@boston.gov

**Close of Comment Period:**  
12/20/2019

BostonPlans.org | @BostonPlans

Teresa Polhemus, Executive Director/Secretary

Public Meeting

# South Boston Seaport Strategic Transit Plan

Monday, December 9  
5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

290 Congress Street  
BSA Space, Fort Point Room (Second Floor)  
Boston, MA 02210

**Description:**

The South Boston Seaport Strategic Transit Plan will prioritize specific recommendations to improve the operations, capacity, and connectivity of the transit network (MBTA buses, Red and Silver Line stations, shuttles, ferries, etc.) serving Boston's Seaport District.

**Open House - 5:30 to 6:00 PM:** Overview of the proposed transit strategies & evaluation methodology to improve transit.

**Presentation - 6:00 to 7:00 PM:** Presentation of the proposed transit strategies & evaluation methodology in more detail. Other topics include study overview, progress since the October meeting, updates on modeling & next steps.


**Open House Continued/Feedback Opportunity - 7:00 PM:** Opportunity to ask questions & provide feedback on the proposed transit strategies & evaluation methodology.

mail to: **Jim Fitzgerald**  
Boston Planning & Development Agency  
One City Hall Square, 9th Floor  
Boston, MA 02201  
phone: 617.918.4327  
email: james.fitzgerald@boston.gov

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Teresa Polhemus, Executive Director/Secretary

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loyal customers and hope to  
see you soon.

Colleen, Eileen and MaryLou

# Massport, Transportation Agencies Ready for Busy Thanksgiving Travel Period



**P**lan ahead and give yourself extra time and know your transportation options were the key messages today as the Massachusetts Port Authority (Massport), and a representative from AAA spoke at Boston Logan International Airport about what to expect this holiday travel season. Thanksgiving represents one of the nation's busiest travel periods, and both organizations offered ways to ease travel frustration, whether driving, using public transportation or flying for the holiday. The roads and skies are expected to be crowded in the days leading up to and after Thanksgiving, with air travel increasing as early as this Friday, November 22nd. Close to 1 million people will travel in and out of Logan between this Friday and Tuesday, December 3rd.

AAA is predicting more than 55 million travelers nationwide are

making plans to kick off the holiday season with a trip of 50 miles or more away from home this Thanksgiving. This will be the second-highest Thanksgiving travel volume since AAA began tracking in 2000, trailing only the record set in 2005. Nearly 5 million of those people will fly. With 4.6% growth, air travel will see the biggest increase in travel volume during the Thanksgiving holiday in the areas they look at. Locally, the Wednesday before Thanksgiving, during 4:30-6:30 p.m., is expected to be the worst driving time. AAA recommends drivers leave earlier or much later, and use travel websites and apps to plan your trip.

Free coffee will be served at the 18 MassDOT service plazas Thanksgiving night, from 10 p.m. through 5 a.m. on Friday, including both northbound and southbound plazas. The High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lane on I-93 between Boston and Quincy will have extended afternoon hours the Tuesday and Wednesday before Thanksgiving, closed on Thanksgiving Day and will have normal hours on Friday.

At Logan, parking is expected to be near capacity during the Thanksgiving travel period and passengers are urged to use any of the multiple options for public transportation to get to the airport and their final destinations. Both the Blue and Silver MBTA lines serve the airport, as well as Logan Express, private buses, limos and taxis. Water transportation is also available by MBTA ferry and water taxi companies providing on-call service to points throughout downtown Boston from the Logan dock. Passengers who take water transportation to Logan get a Ticket

to Skip to the head of the security checkpoint line.

For travelers using the MBTA to get to and from Logan Airport, Massport provides free shuttle service to and from all terminals, the rental car center and the Blue Line's Airport Station. Additional Silver Line 1 service will be offered during Thanksgiving week. As always, outbound service from Logan Airport to the South Boston Seaport District and South Station is free. MBTA water ferries will be running on a holiday schedule on Wednesday, November 27. Several additional trips will be run mid-day, and several evening trips will be cancelled. There is no MBTA ferry service or water taxi service on Thanksgiving Day. Please visit MBTA.com for schedule information, as some services will be on holiday schedules on certain days.

For those traveling internationally for the holiday season, our partners at CBP (U.S. Customs and Border Protection) would like to remind travelers to declare all goods, foods and gifts. Familiarize yourself with Automated Passport Control (APC) and Mobile Passport Control - two programs that make the entry process more efficient, intuitive and paperless for travelers. Learn which option works best for you and speed your entry into the United States. At Logan Airport, U.S. citizens and Canadian visitors can submit their passport information and answers to inspection-related questions to CBP via a smartphone or tablet app prior to arrival.

**Travel tips from the different agencies include:**

**General travel tips for the holiday:**

- When possible, use public trans-

portation instead of driving;

- Visit MBTA.com for updated schedule information, as some services will be on holiday schedules on certain days;

- If you do drive, download MassDOT's Go Time travel app, visit www.Mass511.com or call 511, for the latest updates on travel conditions, and traffic information;

- Try to drive during off peak hours, keep alert and stay awake. Free coffee will be served at the 18 MassDOT service plazas Thanksgiving night, from 10 p.m. through 5 a.m. the next day.

**Travel tips for Logan**

- Parking is expected to be near or at capacity, take public transportation or HOV options when possible;

- Visit the Massport website for information on all the travel options to and from Logan Airport;

- Always check your airline flight status before leaving for the airport;

- Allow extra time to get to the airport, check in and get through security;

- TSA suggests getting to the airport 2 hours early for a domestic flight and 3 for international;

- Don't forget the leftovers - turkey and stuffing are fine, but all liquids you pack must be 3.4 ounces (100 ml) or less;

- If you have any questions about what is prohibited in your luggage, go to www.tsa.gov or tweet your question to @AskTSA;

- Sign up for text alerts or go to LoganForward.com for the latest construction updates and to sign up for email alerts.

Be sure to follow our partner agencies on Twitter @BostonLogan, @MassDOT, @MBTA, and @TSA and @CBP.

## The Volunteer Elves Are Hard At Work At Laboure

**T**he Christmas Shoppe At Laboure is filled with holiday gifts and decorations for everyone. Receive \$25.00 in complimentary merchandise when you spend \$100, which is easy to do with the abundance of santas, wreaths, tabletop trees, mantle décor and those famous pink flamingos! **Sale dates remaining are Saturday, December 7 from 10AM – 8PM and Sunday, December 8 from 10AM – 4PM.** All proceeds benefit the programs at Laboure.





## Experiential Education at St. Peter Academy

By Maria Blasi

St. Peter Academy relished an action-packed week of experiential education with visits and field trips that supported differentiated learning and a thirst for knowledge! Our youngest friends in the Toddler Program were surprised with an animal adventure hosted by “Farm Visits” of Swansea, MA. A baby pig, baby goat, chickens, and

bunnies filled our community room with curiosity, laughs, and smiles all around! Meanwhile, Pre-Kinderergarten and Grade K1 explored the Boston Children’s Museum where they engaged in hands-on discovery with various exhibits and presentations that inspired critical thinking, problem solving, and childhood creativity. Grades K2 through Grade 6 developed a better appreciation for the Arts with a production of Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory at Wheelock Theater. Students expressed excitement over the special effects, colorful costumes, beautiful singing, and lively dance moves – in addition to riding the “T” with friends!

continued on page 12



## Lori Frankian A Profile In Courage

By Rick Lane, Esq.

Almost every summer afternoon for the last twelve years, South Boston neighbors in City Point would witness a speedy electric-powered wheelchair zooming down “N” Street (toward “M” Street Beach). A person that could only be described as someone on a “mission” to reach her beach location before anymore of her sun time was lost. Destination, The Landing, (aka known as “Lori’s

Landing”) and this individual was **Lori Frankian**. Lori adopted South Boston as her summer home and South Boston embraced her independent spirit, lively conversations, and daily smile.

Lori Frankian was stricken at the age of two with Spinal Muscular Atrophy, a devastating neuromuscular disease which is a form of muscular dystrophy. After being diagnosed, her family was told by a myriad of doctors that she wouldn’t survive to the age of 6. Well, Lori proved them wrong. God had a plan. She was placed here on this earth for a reason. She was an extraordinary gift loaned to the South Boston community. This was Lori’s quiet place for peace and relaxation. Her home away from home.

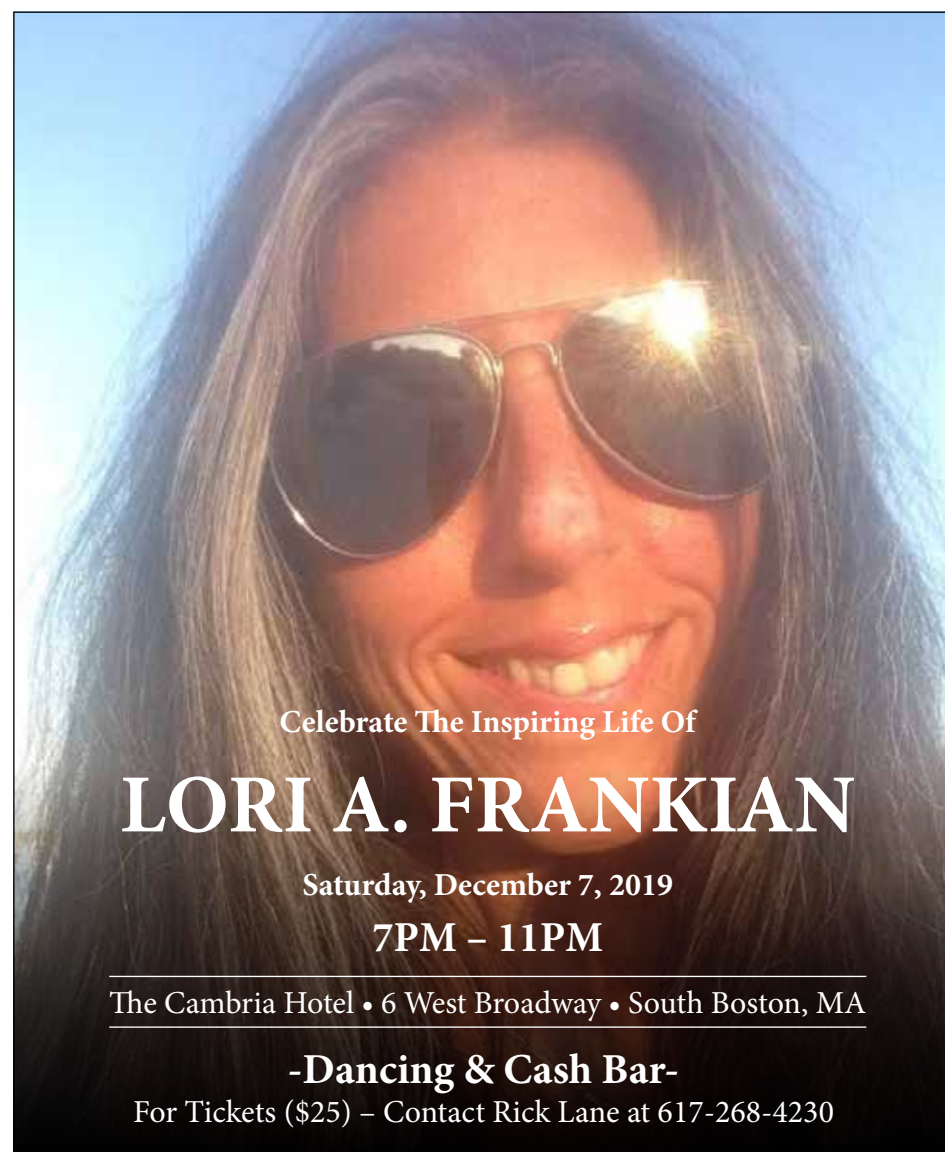
**Lori passed away this year after her long- fought battle with Spinal Muscular Atrophy.** During last summer she expressed to her best friend Jenn Welch and me that she would like to be remembered by her friends in South Boston and that her memory be kept alive with the hope she would be an inspiration to others who had challenges in their lives. Her family, friends, Jenn and I are trying to honor that request and make it a reality by erecting a memorial bench to fulfill her wishes.

We are putting together a “Celebration of Life” fundraiser event to be held Saturday, December 7, 2019 at the new Cambria Hotel in South

Boston, opposite Broadway Station. Proceeds from this event will go towards the proposed memorial bench to be erected at “Lori’s Landing” which first needs to be approved by the DCR. Any remaining monies will go to Lori’s favorite cause,

**Muscular Dystrophy.**

Donations can be made to: **The Lori Frankian Memorial Fund, c/o The Dedham Savings Bank, 636 East Broadway, South Boston, MA 02127, or visit [www.Plumfund.com/Loris-Landing](http://www.Plumfund.com/Loris-Landing).**

Celebrate The Inspiring Life Of

# LORI A. FRANKIAN

Saturday, December 7, 2019  
7PM – 11PM

The Cambria Hotel • 6 West Broadway • South Boston, MA

**-Dancing & Cash Bar-**  
For Tickets (\$25) – Contact Rick Lane at 617-268-4230



# Southie Hall of Fame Scholarship 'Time' At Florian

By Brian Wallace

**T**his Saturday night, November 23, at Florian Hall many of the great athletes that made Southie so proud will be remembered at a Hall of Fame Reunion to raise money to help deserving South Boston youth fulfill their dreams of going to college. To date, the South Boston Hall of Fame Scholarship Committee led by the one-time great Chippewas quarterback Ed Buccigross, has given \$276,500 in scholarships to 191 South Boston High School Seniors



from a myriad of schools.

When Injun Horan, former Patriot Bob Nichols, and Bobby Sullivan, a founding member of the South

Boston Youth Hockey Program, and I got together in 1991 at 'the L', we decided to recognize the many great athletes from South Boston and start the Sports Hall of Fame. I remember saying at that first meeting that if we go forward and put together a Sports Hall of Fame it has to be about giving back to the community. Injun laughed when I said, "This can't be about each of us telling how good we were and how many touchdowns we scored against Hyde Park. Oh, we can do a little of that, but we have to develop a mechanism to help Southie

kids." We all agreed and we came up with the South Boston Hall of Fame Scholarship Committee has grown leaps and bounds and we want to keep it that way.

On Saturday, November 23rd, Dru Errico, in one of his last shows before heading to Florida, will provide the music. We need you to provide the support to keep the Scholarships going, as Southie always does. Injun, Nick, and Sully would be proud. It starts at 7PM and somehow that game where we scored 20 points will have somehow magically rose to 40.

## South Boston Catholic Academy News

**S**outh Boston Catholic Academy is pleased to announce they will be receiving scholarship support for 31 students for the 2019-2020 school year from the Inner-City Scholarship Fund (ICSF).

ICSF is the signature program of the Catholic Schools Foundation. This year, ICSF will be providing nearly \$10 million in scholarship support to more than 4,000 students in the Archdiocese of Boston. The ICSF has been dedicated to creating accessibility to a high quality, values-based education for low-income families for three decades.

"The students supported through the ICSF are the future leaders of our society and we are thrilled to be able to invest in them through a Catholic education," said Mike Reardon, Executive Director of the Catholic Schools Foundation.

South Boston Catholic Academy is a preschool through grade six school with over 400 students. We embrace excellence in education and a firm belief in the uniqueness of the individual. Inspired by the traditions of our Catholic faith, family spirit, and academic excel-

lence, we are committed to meeting the spiritual, academic, physical, and social needs of individual students within a learning environment that is both stimulating and supportive. We strive to develop within our students the skills and values needed to become successful, morally conscious members of society.

"The funding provided by the Catholic Schools Foundation (CSF) Inner-City Scholarship Fund enables us to live out our mission and bring high quality education to children in our city. We are fortunate that this funding provides access to our deserving students and look forward to continuing our long standing partnership with CSF," says Jamie Brown, Assistant Principal.

The Catholic Schools Foundation (CSF) is the premier non-profit institution for granting aid to low-income students to attend Catholic elementary and high school in the Archdiocese of Boston. CSF's tax exempt 501(c)(3) status is separate from the diocese, allowing companies and individuals who are unable to donate to religious organizations to support disadvantaged youth in the Archdiocese. Over

the past three decades, CSF has distributed more than \$100 million in scholarship aid to over 50,000 students in the Greater Boston community. With an astounding 100% high school graduation rate, these scholarships are transforming lives and futures. CSF has earned the highest possible rating (4-stars) through Charity Navigator based on its financial health, accountability and transparency

for five consecutive years.

Boston Catholic Academy ([www.SBCatholicAcademy.org](http://www.SBCatholicAcademy.org)) is currently accepting applications for all classes PreSchool-Grade 6. We have Before School and After School Programs available and high acceptance rate to Parochial, Private, and Boston Exam Schools. Please contact: Mrs. Jamie Brown, our Vice Principal, with any questions or for a tour of the school at [j.brown@sbcatholicacademy.org](mailto:j.brown@sbcatholicacademy.org) or phone 617-268-2326 for more information.



SPA continued from page 11

*St. Peter Academy is an independent, community-based private school and serves students from ages 15 months through grade 6.*

*SPA is currently accepting applications for the limited spaces available in the year-round toddler program (beginning at age 15 months) and for students in*

*Pre-K, Kindergarten and grades 1-6. Join us for our Open House January 22, 2020 from 9:00 am – 11:30 am and 3:00 pm – 6:00 pm.*

*Appointments for individual tours can be made by contacting the Principal, Frank Galligan, at 617-268-0750 or by emailing [spa@StPeterAcademy.com](mailto:spa@StPeterAcademy.com).*



# ‘Julie’s Learning’ Open House Celebration

Bob Monahan, the Executive Director of Julie’s Learning was greeting guests at the Open House for enrollment for classes in adult education and high school equivalency held on November 16. It was a festive occasion

celebrating the receipt of new grant funding. Councilor Ed Flynn and Representative David Biele were on hand to offer citations from their respective government bodies, the City Council and the State Legislature. The Sisters of Notre Dame

were in attendance helping with the raffle baskets and celebrating the missions of both Julie’s and Notre Dame, being watched over by Saint Julie Billiart’s statue that is now proudly displayed at Julie’s. Julie’s Learning is a family sup-

port, wellness and education program that is committed to the development of strong, stable, healthy families. Julie’s provides services that enable poor, at-risk mothers and their children to transform their lives  
**continued on page 14**





**Julie's Learning continued from page 13**  
and become healthy, successful and economically self-sufficient members of their communities. Julie's provides 20 different services with a comprehensive and holistic approach, to 200 disadvantaged, low-income young mothers and their children from diverse ethnic and racial communities around Greater Boston.

Julie's work with Early Intervention

providers such as Beacon, Bay Cove and Thom for EI for the children in their program, and with clinicians and social workers from The Home for Little Wanderers. The Center has picked up some of the programs of Notre Dame Education Center with staffs working together. We receive food assistance from Lovin' Spoonfuls to feed their families. They participate in Share Our

Strength's Cooking Matters to teach their mothers healthy cooking on a budget. Hands to Heart Yoga works with preschool children.

Julie's recently benefited from a \$600,000 grant from the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) for workforce development, adult basic education, and English language education programming, after secur-

ing the competitive grants following continued advocacy from State Senator Nick Collins and State Representative David Biele. The funds allocated were part of the annual appropriations the Legislature approved in the FY20 Budget for DESE. Historically allocated as a larger, single grant, DESE agreed to split the funding into two segments to ensure South Boston non-profit organizations would be eligible.







**DANNY PICARD:** So you told me in a text that you did not watch the Gronk video [announcing the “Gronk Beach” Super Bowl party]. Is that true?

**MIKE GIARDI:** That is absolutely true. Danny, I know you have been on the “he’s coming back,” and I’ve been very reluctant. I especially thought after the TED Talk he did there where he started to cry — and I know some people thought he was playing that up — but I thought that was it; if he’s coming back, it’s not going to happen this year. Of course he leaves the bread crumbs everywhere because he’s keeping his brand front and center. But until I hear from somebody that I trust that this is legit, I feel that I have to pay attention to it, but in my head I’ve put it to bed at least until the offseason.

**DP:** Well I watched the video. If I was somebody who thought this announcement was going to be that he was returning [to the Patriots] . . . I would be pissed off. Now, even though I was on “Gronk Watch” as you mentioned, Mike. And I was hopeful, I did not think this announcement would be Patriots-related.

However, I did think maybe it would be business-related to a point where we could still have hope, knowing that there’s still a week-and-a-half for him to make a decision. But because this announcement is Super Bowl-related, and it’s a party at the Super Bowl, we can officially close the door. Gronk is not returning to the Patriots this year. But, we have heard Robert Kraft sound hopeful. So my question to you is, do you think players in the room were as hopeful as the owner was, that Gronk could return this season? or do you think players and people like Tom Brady knew from day one that Gronk was never returning?

**MG:** I don’t know that they knew, but I think when you get into the season, it is so demanding, that I don’t think they really have time to let their minds wander like, “Well, this isn’t that good right now, but maybe, just maybe, Gronk keeps putting it out there, maybe he’s going to come back.” I don’t think — from the players’ perspective — that once they get into it that they can allow their minds to sort of drift in that regard. And

I think Bill [Belichick], based on the way the retirement went, and it happened late, I don’t know that it put some damage on the relationship, but I don’t think that was appreciated by Bill and Nick [Caserio] and the guys, because free agency was essentially over. That whole first wave [of free agency] and the second wave had already happened before he announced his retirement. I’m sure that if [Gronkowski] had called them in September and said, “I’m thinking about coming back,” that [the Patriots] wouldn’t have said no, but I don’t think that they necessarily were thinking, “Hey, this is part of the plan somewhere down the line.” You can almost see that too, just by the way they operated financially in the Antonio Brown deal, which obviously that thing is going to be litigated until the cows come home. But they invested a lot of money into Antonio Brown. That put them right up against the cap at that point. And if you’re saving \$8 million for Rob Gronkowski, or pro-rated, they didn’t. And look, I know you can create some cap room however you want, but that’s

pushing the can further down the road, and eventually you’re going to have to pay for it. So I don’t think [Gronk’s return] was ever really front and center with them. Maybe for Kraft, or maybe Kraft was doing Gronk a solid and just keeping his name out there front and center and helping him push the business, because [Gronkowski] gave them a lot of himself over the last eight, nine years.

**DP:** I would love to know. Because Kraft sounded hopeful. He was sitting there on your network before that Thursday night game against the Giants, and he’s saying, “Well Gronk hasn’t filed his retirement papers and we’re hopeful.” I would just love to know if there was any type of negotiation between the Patriots and [Gronkowski’s agent] Drew Rosenhaus this season though. I really would.

**Listen to “The Danny Picard Show” on iTunes, Spotify, Google Play, and anywhere else podcasts are available. Watch “dPs LIVE” on YouTube. Follow Danny on Twitter @DannyPicard. Check out all of Danny’s work at dannypicard.com.**

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# SPORTS TODAY

## GRONK ANNOUNCES SUPER BOWL PARTY, WILL NOT RETURN TO PATRIOTS

SBT Staff

Former Patriots tight end Rob Gronkowski had all of New England in the palm of his hand earlier this week, saying that he would make a “big” announcement on Tuesday morning.

While many Patriots fans held out hope that Tuesday’s announcement would be Gronkowski’s way of making his dramatic late-season return to football, it turned out to be nothing more than a major disappointment.

Gronkowski posted a two-minute video on social media, in which he revealed he’ll be hosting a Super Bowl party in Miami, called “Gronk Beach.” This would mean Gronkowski is doing anything but preparing to play football during the first weekend of February.

The Patriots are currently the No. 1 seed in the AFC, but could still use some offensive help. Owner Robert Kraft had publicly held out hope for a Gronkowski return this season, telling the NFL Network last month that Gronkowski had yet to file his

## Tweet of the Week



AB  
@AB84

Mr.Kraft I apologize sincerely to you and your organization! All I wanted to be was an asset to the organization; sorry for the bad media and the drama ! Thank you sincerely AB



retirement papers.

Gronkowski still has until next Saturday, Nov. 30 to file for reinstatement in order to be active for the rest of the season and the playoffs. But Tuesday’s “Gronk Beach” announcement pretty much rules out a return.

This isn’t the first time Gronkowski has disappointed Patriots fans with an announcement. Back in August, Gronkowski also teased an announcement, only to reveal a personal business venture and partnership with a CBD company.

“Gronk Beach” is more pleasure than business. But one thing’s for sure. It’s not football.

## REPORT: PATRIOTS PLAN TO ACTIVATE WYNN, PLACE OLSZEWSKI ON INJURED RESERVE

SBT Staff

As the New England Patriots get set to host the Dallas Cowboys on Sunday at 4:25 p.m., it looks like Tom Brady will be seeing the return of a very important piece to his offense.

Left tackle Isaiah Wynn is set to be activated for the first time since being placed on injured reserve with a toe injury that he suffered back in Week 2. Wynn will be an upgrade to replacement left tackle Marshall Newhouse, who has struggled as of late, resulting in some serious issues on the Patriots’ offensive line.

In order to add Wynn to the active roster, ESPN Boston’s Mike Reiss reported that “barring an unexpected change,” the Patriots will place wide

## WHAT TO WATCH

NFL Week 12

THURSDAY, NOV. 21

Indianapolis at Houston (-4.5)  
8:20 P.M. FOX/NFLN

SUNDAY, NOV. 24

Dallas at New England (-6.5)  
4:25 P.M. FOX

Green Bay at San Francisco (-3.5)  
8:20 P.M. NBC

MONDAY, NOV. 25

Baltimore (-3) at LA Rams  
8:15 P.M. ESPN

NHL

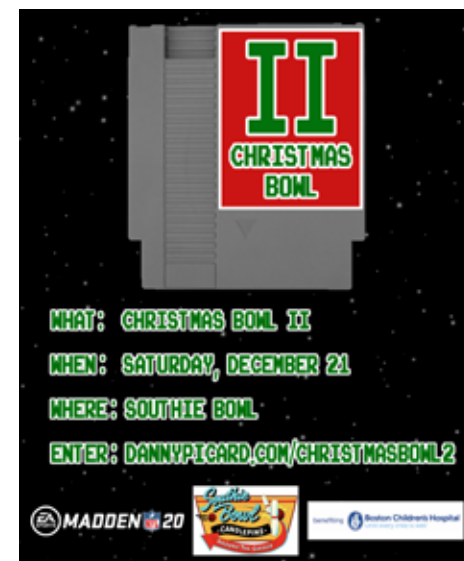
TUESDAY, NOV. 26

Boston at Montreal  
7 P.M. NESN



receiver and punt returner Gunner Olszewski on injured reserve with ankle and hamstring injuries.

The 9-1 Patriots are a 6.5-point favorite at home against Dallas on Sunday. The Cowboys are 6-4 and are coming off a 35-27 win over the Detroit Lions last Sunday. New England is coming off a 17-10 win over the Philadelphia Eagles.



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