

## YOUR VOTE COUNTS, JUST ASK JULIA MEJIA



**O**n Tuesday, Alejandra St. Guillen told supporters that she has conceded in the race for the fourth and final at-large City Council seat to Julia Mejia, after a recount gave Mejia a one-vote victory in an election where 67,000 ballots were cast. St. Guillen had been weighing whether to appeal contested ballots to the state courts but said Tuesday she will accept the outcome.

“Last night, I believed that I owed it to my supporters and the voters to fully review the results from the recount before moving forward. After weighing all the options with my team and my family, I have come to the decision to not move forward with a court challenge,” she tweeted out. She added, “I am so grateful to every person who supported me over this last year in our campaign

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# EDITORIAL

## Hey You Turkeys, Get Off of My Car

There is a lot of talk on South Boston's social media sites about turkeys roaming our streets and back yards. Well, that's because there are a lot of turkeys in town and we don't mean the plump and juicy variety that graced many of our Thanksgiving dinner tables last week. Nope, these are the wild turkeys that are turning up in flocks in practically every part of the neighborhood.

They seem to like to perch on fences as well as on the roof and hood of vehicles. They appar-

ently feel safe and quite at home among us and the sight of them delights a lot of residents. But a word of caution: Look at them if it pleases you but we recommend not approaching them. Because unlike the fluffy and adorable rabbits that wouldn't harm a soul that have invaded our inner-city enclave over the past year, wild turkeys can get pretty aggressive, if they choose, and even if not provoked. Most have seen the news reports of wild turkeys in some towns actually chasing mail carriers back into their trucks

and most recently, a flock of the unpredictable birds attacking the tires of a police cruiser for no apparent reason.

There was one report out of a South Shore town where school children find the need to carry hockey sticks while waiting for the school bus to come to use to fend off the winged visitors. Sometimes, this could be a necessary defense if attacked. So, our advice is to keep a safe distance and follow the recommendations of wildlife experts and do not feed them.



*"I left Santa gluten free cookies and organic soy milk and he left a solar panel in my stocking" - Greg Gutfeld*

## Hughes and Pacitti Honored By "Friends For Children" Organization

Deborah Hughes, president and CEO of Brookview House in Dorchester, and South Boston Legend Robert Pacitti, were honored as Man & Woman of the Year by the Friends for Children organization on December 4th for their many years of dedication and leadership to the issues affecting children. Each year, Brookview provides 370 women and children experiencing homelessness with safe housing and multi-generational support services to achieve long-term stability and economic independence. Robert's support to so many efforts knows no bounds. Among them, he serves as a member



of the Board of the Joseph "Dodo" Nee South Boston Collaborative Center, the South Boston Special Kids & Young Adults, the South Boston Neighborhood House (The Ollie) and the Harry McDonough Sailing Center. He is also a supporter of the South Boston Community Health.



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# The Information Center



## Chelsea Soldiers Home/Package Thieves/Dolly Parton

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY

John Ciccone

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

**T**is the season of peace, love and good will toward all, as far as many people are concerned. But police remind us to be aware that even though most would never think of doing so, like most years, there still are those who are prowling our streets looking for delivered packages to steal. Yes, it happens in many places including South Boston and especially during the Christmas season, when there are considerably more delivered items left on door-steps by FEDEX, UPS, the US Postal Service and other delivery services.

Losing those special gifts that often cost quite a bit of money can put a damper on anyone's Christmas spirit. And it's not just the monetary worth that makes the gifts so valuable. Most often a lot of thought and love goes into selecting just the right item for the special people in our lives, which makes it even worse if they are stolen. But there are precautions we can all take to cut down the odds that we will be victims of these thefts.

Police sources have suggested a type of neighborhood watch agreement between neighbors that can foil even the most determined thieves. One plan is to select one or more neighbors to work with. Whenever someone sees a package on the door steps of a nearby neighbor, they take it into their own homes and either bring it by when the neighbor returns home or at least notify them that they have the delivered package, which can be picked up at their convenience. If each neighbor involved in the agreement does the same for each other it will greatly lower the chance that the item will be stolen.

Cameras: Security cameras are coming down in price at a rapid

rate. You can go high tech and spend a lot of money on a state-of-the-art security/video system. As most know, in 2019, there are security systems like 'Ring' that will shoot live video footage to your phones whenever there is movement outside your home, and you can even communicate by audio to anyone on the premises. But you don't have to spend a lot to get good results.

Stores like Walmart, Bass Pro-Shops and Cabelas sell 'Game Cameras' used by hunters that cost as little as \$25 and take excellent still pictures as well as video. Positioned at the proper angles, they can catch the image of the thieves themselves on SD cards and even the license plate numbers if the thieves are using vehicles for their getaway.

But the neighborhood watch method is probably the way to go as well and if all are in agreement, it won't cost a dime; just neighbors helping neighbors. As law enforcement sources will tell you, word spreads quickly among criminals. If they know that there are people watching out for one another in a certain area, they will go elsewhere to commit their crimes. And South Boston people have always been famous for watching out for one another.

So, we hope this word of caution will remind all to keep your eyes open for the package thieves this year. If we all work together it will ensure that this Christmas season will be Merry.

Here's a special message from our friends at the Thomas J. Fitzgerald VFW Post located at 561 E. Fourth Street in Southie – across from Stop & Shop. Once again, this year, the Fitzgerald Post will be collecting needed donated items for the residents of the Chelsea Soldiers

Home. Among the most requested items needed are warm hats, socks, gloves, scarves, coats etc... The items can be dropped off at the post on Saturday, December 21st, between the hours of 9am and noon time. These veterans who reside there and have served our country during times of war and peace, will be grateful for the items and it would be a real nice gesture during the Christmas season. We'll print more reminders on the SBT social media sites as the time of the collection draws near.

And finally, Country music super-

star Dolly Parton made the annual Christmas tree lighting on Boston Common extra special last week when she surprised the crowd with an appearance and wished everyone a Merry Christmas. Those who were there that night loved it and by the reaction of the crowd, they love her. And why not? She is a down to earth performer, generous beyond belief and is sincere when she tells her fans how much she loves and appreciates them. She made this annual event even more special by showing up.

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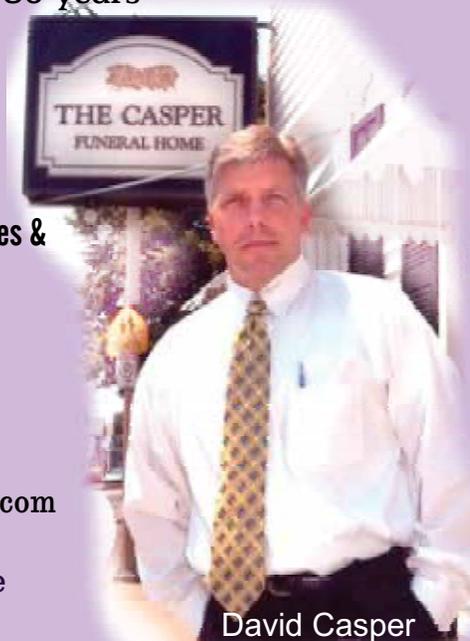
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## Window Into The State House

Window Into The State House provides our readers a synopsis of important issues of interest, past and current, that are being proposed, debated or 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.

### Every vote truly counts: Mejia wins council recount by only one vote

They're pulling out the 'every vote counts' cliché – and well they should. Boston City Council At-Large Candidate Julia Mejia was declared the winner – by one vote – after a three-day recount of nearly 45,000 votes. WGBH's Isaiah Thompson, the Globe's Milton Valancia and Universal Hub have the details on the recount – which may

yet be challenged in court.

### The latest scathing T report: Will anyone be held responsible?

It wasn't just a scathing report on safety 'deficiencies' at the MBTA. It was a scathing and damning indictment on the overall mismanagement of the MBTA in recent years. Think we're exaggerating? Here's a small sampling of the headlines following yesterday's release of an out-

side panel's report on the T – From Boston Magazine: "The MBTA's Leadership Is 'Defeated, Helpless and in Some Cases Hopeless.'" From MassLive: "MBTA safety report finds deficiencies 'in almost every area' of system." From Commonwealth magazine: "Panel offers scathing assessment of transit operations." From SHNS's Chris Lisinski: "Experts: MBTA Safety Woes Underscored by Trust, Fear Issues."

From the Globe: "Safety 'is not the priority' at the MBTA, panel finds."

Of course, some people, like House Speaker Robert DeLeo, are now suggesting that more money is the answer to the T's problems (SHNS). Which is probably true. But do people really want to sink more money into a system that's clearly mismanaged? The Herald's Joe Battenfeld gets closest to the management matter by pointing a finger straight at Gov. Charlie Baker and Transportation Secretary Stephanie Pollack.

We do know this: The current management team – including the MBTA's fiscal control board – is simply failing. Do we really need more proof of this after this report?

## Sen. Collins, Rep. Biele Vote to Enact the Student Opportunity Act

State Senator Nick Collins and State Representative David Biele, along with their colleagues in both chambers of the Massachusetts Legislature, unanimously voted to enact the Student Opportunity Act.

This legislation, providing an unprecedented \$1.5 billion new investment in Massachusetts K-12 public education system, ensures public schools have the resources to provide high-quality education to students across the state, regardless of zip code or income level. Assuming inflation, over the seven-year implementation timeline the bill will provide an estimated \$2.2 billion in support of public schools. The City of Boston and Boston Public Schools are projected to receive an additional \$115 million for public education under Chapter 70 over the next several years.

"I was proud to vote for this unprecedented investment in local education," said Sen. Collins. "The State has demonstrated its commitment to Boston Public Schools over the past decade, but this bill really ramps up the investments. In addition to the \$222 million in baseline education funds, and the \$202 million in unrestricted aid we allocate

for City schools, it is clear that the Commonwealth is dedicated to a quality education for all students. What could possibly be more important than investing in the future of our young people?"

"We have a responsibility to invest in our youth, their education, and their future," said Rep. Biele. "This landmark legislation will help ensure that Boston Public Schools, and public schools across the state, have the necessary resources to provide high-quality education to students regardless of income level or zip code, giving our students the tools they need to succeed and thrive in the classroom and beyond."

The Student Opportunity Act provides significant support to school districts that serve high concentrations of low-income students and English learners. All school districts across the Commonwealth will benefit from updates to the existing funding formula, with increased state investments in vital education aid programs such as special education transportation and school construction and renovation.

The Student Opportunity Act fully implements the recommendations of the 2015 Foundation Budget Review Commission (FBRC) in order to support the "educational programs and services necessary to achieve the Commonwealth's educational goals" as stated in the Commission's mission. The bill provides an estimated \$1.4 billion in new Chapter 70 aid over and above inflation when fully implemented over the next seven years. The legislation modernizes the K-12 educa-



tion funding and policy by:

- Increasing special education enrollment and cost assumptions to more accurately reflect district enrollment.
- Providing additional funding based on the share of low-income students in each school district; and
- Returning the definition of low-income to 185 percent of the Federal Poverty Level, as opposed to the 133 percent level used in recent years.
- Increases funding for English learners.

In addition to implementing the FBRC's recommended formula changes, the Student Opportunity Act provides an additional \$100 million in state financial support in several categories to help public schools and communities deliver a high-quality education to every student. Those fiscal supports include:

- Increasing foundation rates for guidance and psychological services in recognition of the growing need for expanded social-emotional support and mental health services;
- Committing to fully funding charter school tuition reimbursement, which provides transitional aid to help districts

when students leave to attend charter schools, within a three-year timetable;

- Expanding the special education circuit breaker program, which reimburses districts for extraordinary special education costs, to include transportation as well as instructional cost, to be implemented over the next four years; and
- Raising the annual cap on Massachusetts School Building Authority spending for construction and renovation of school building projects by \$200 million.

In order to track and reproduce successful school and district-level programs and policies, the legislation calls on school districts to develop and make publicly available plans for closing opportunity gaps and includes language, to ensure that plans consider input from school committees and other stakeholders. The legislation also establishes a Data Advisory Commission to help improve the use of data at the state, district, and school levels to inform strategies that strengthen teaching, learning and resource allocation.

The bill was signed into law by Governor Charlie Baker.

## Councilors Flynn & Flaherty, DND Held Informational Meeting on Senior Programs

In partnership with the City of Boston Dept. of Neighborhood Development (DND) and the Boston Home Center, Boston City Councilors Ed Flynn & Michael Flaherty held an informational meeting this past Saturday, Dec. 7th at the South Boston Library on senior home repair programs offered by the city.

In the meeting, staff from DND & the Boston Home Center gave



an overview of programs such as Seniors Save and the Senior Home Repair, where eligible seniors can obtain grants or 0% interest loans to replace aging heating systems, and to make emergency, moderate or minor repairs to their homes. DND representatives were able to walk residents through the application process for these programs and answer pertinent questions. Resi-

dents also received brochures and informational materials about city programs and services available to seniors and homeowners.

“Thank you to the Department of Neighborhood Development for coming out over the weekend to discuss valuable home repair programs available to our seniors,” said Councilors Flynn and Flaherty in a joint statement. “The city offers a variety of programs that help our

seniors stay safe and comfortable in their homes, and we will continue to work closely with our city departments to ensure that our residents are aware of the helpful assistance they provide.”

For more information, please visit <https://www.boston.gov/departments/neighborhood-development/boston-home-center> or contact [neighborhooddevelopment.dnd@boston.gov](mailto:neighborhooddevelopment.dnd@boston.gov) and 617-635-3880.

## Tom Tinlin Named Board Chair of Brain Aneurysm Foundation



board chair. Tinlin will help to support BAF’s mission and continue its work as the globally recognized leader in brain aneurysm awareness, education, support, advocacy and research funding. Tinlin started working with the foundation following his own experience with a ruptured brain aneurysm in April 2017. In just two years, Tinlin has dedicated himself to the organization and has worked tirelessly to raise awareness and research funding.

“I am thrilled to have Tom succeed me as board chair. His personal and professional experience makes him a wonderful asset to the board. He understands firsthand the importance of continuing the foundation’s work nationally and across globe,” said Former Board Chair, and Founder and CEO of RL Leaders and Capstone National Partners John C. Rogers.

In 2018, Tinlin received BAF’s Survivor Champion Award for his work within the brain aneurysm community. This year he emceed the event helping to honor individuals, such as City of Boston Mayor Martin J. Walsh, for their efforts to raise awareness. Tinlin has also been instrumental in working with Massachusetts Governor Charlie

Baker to formally recognize September as Brain Aneurysm Awareness in his home state.

“It is my privilege to serve as board chair. As a survivor I feel I have been given a gift and this is my way of giving back,” said Tinlin. “As I continue to work with BAF and the brain aneurysm community, my goal is to increase the general public’s and medical professionals’ understanding and education of the early warning signs that can easily be misdiagnosed. My hope is that the work that we do today will lead to early detection and successful treatment of brain aneurysms in the future.”

For the first time this year, Tinlin and his family organized the first annual “18 for 18” Tinlin Family Golf Tournament, which was the largest fundraiser in the foundation’s history. The tournament name represents a startling statistic; a brain aneurysm ruptures every 18 minutes. Of the 30,000 people each year that suffer a rupture, 40 percent will die, and of those who survive, 66 percent will endure permanent neurological deficits that limit their ability to resume a normal life. Despite how often a rupture occurs and how devastating the outcome, the federal government

only spends .83 per person afflicted.

All the proceeds that Tinlin and his family raised supports BAF, of which \$40,000, went to the Thomas J. Tinlin Chair of Research. This year he traveled to Pasadena, CA to award Dr. Steffen-Sebastian Bolz of the University of Toronto, the grant to support his research project. “BAF is so grateful for all of the work that Tom, his family and his community have done to help elevate the level of awareness of brain aneurysms and raise critical research funds. Tom understands how important it is to have more people know what a brain aneurysm is and how to identify a potential rupture. Understanding the early warning signs and knowing the facts saves lives,” said BAF Executive Director Christine Buckley.

To learn more about brain aneurysm disease or to support the BAF, please visit [bafound.org](http://bafound.org).

### ABOUT THE BRAIN ANEURYSM FOUNDATION

Founded in Boston and now based in Hanover, Massachusetts, the Brain Aneurysm Foundation is the globally recognized leader in brain aneurysm awareness, education, support, advocacy and research funding.



Boston resident and brain aneurysm survivor Tom Tinlin has been named the Brain Aneurysm Foundation’s (BAF)

## All-America Honors For Emmett Forde Of South Boston

Hobart College junior linebacker Emmett Forde of South Boston was named to the 2019 AFCA Division III All-America first team which were announced today by the American Football Coaches Association. He is the eighth Statesman to be named an AFCA All-American and the first first-team selection since current Tampa Bay Buccaneer Ali Marpet '15 in 2014.

A starter in all 11 games this season, Forde led Hobart with 81 tackles. His 21 tackles for loss led the Liberty League and were the most by a Statesman since Tyre Coleman '15 had 28.5 in 2014. Forde is 16th in the nation in tackles for loss per game (1.9). He also shared the league lead in fumbles forced (3) and fumbles recovered (2).

The 2019 Liberty League Defensive Player of the Year and All-Liberty League pick was named the conference's defensive performer of the week three times this season. He opened the season with eight tackles and two interceptions in a win over nationally-ranked Brockport. Forde posted a season-high 12 tackles and forced a fumble in the win over Montclair State. The following week, he rang up 10 tackles at Union and followed that with another 12 tackle effort in the win over Rensselaer. Forde also posted a season-

high 3.5 tackles for loss and forced a fumble against the Engineers. He capped the regular season with seven tackles, all solo, and a 19-yard scoop and score in the win at Rochester.

Hobart went 9-2 this season. It's the ninth time in the 126-season history of the program that the Statesmen have won at least nine games. Hobart posted a 4-2 record in Liberty League play, tying for second in the standings.

The Statesmen ranked sixth in the nation in turnovers gained with 17 interceptions (15th) and 13 fumbles recovered (11th). The Hobart defense was among the best in the nation in the red zone, as opponents scored on just 57.5 percent of their trips inside the 20 (23-40).

In 30 career games, Forde has 139 tackles, 27.5 for loss, 8.5 sacks, five pass breakups, four forced fumbles, three fumble recoveries, and two interceptions. On Hobart's career lists, he is 13th in tackles for loss, tied for 18th in fumbles forced and 22nd in sacks. Forde is the first linebacker in Hobart history to earn AFCA All-American honors.

Emmett is the son of Kay and Paul Forde, and siblings Patrick and Rose. His Mom said, "I am so proud of Emmett and his achievement! His football career started here with South Boston Pop Warner and continued at Catholic Memorial."



### Your Vote Counts continued from front page

to build a better Boston for all. I am so proud of what we accomplished and, even though we came up short, I feel like we are all winners."

Boston City Council At-Large Candidate Julia Mejia has now officially secured the fourth-place spot for the Council's four at-large seats after a three-day-long recount. According to the tally, certified Monday by the city's Board of Election, Mejia won out over St. Guillen, by one vote - 22,492 to 22,491. "It feels incredibly overwhelming to win by one vote," Mejia told reporters Monday night. "It really goes to reinforce the message we've been promoting all along, that every vote matters."

The final tally was announced

Boston Election Commissioner Eneida Tavares by shortly after 6 p.m., and after lawyers for both candidates made final arguments over a handful of contested ballots — arguments that could have swayed the outcome of the election. The Board of Election voted to allow one ballot that had previously been rejected and not to allow another one. It was not clear which, if either, candidate those ballots favored. The St. Guillen campaign had 24 hours to decide whether it will contest the results in court, and the campaign was deciding overnight whether to take that step and candidate St. Guillen made the tough decision the next morning.

When asked Monday evening about the possibility of a recount,

Mejia said the campaign will prepare for another review of the votes. "At the end of the day, for me, it's always been about building political power in low-income communities," she said. "The more opportunities that we have to demonstrate the value of our vote, the better this story is going to be. So, if we're going to court, we're going to court."

Neither state nor city laws provide for automatic recounts, no matter how close the margin of an election. Instead, candidates must petition the city for recounts ward by ward — for each of the city's 22 wards — by submitting at least 50 resident signatures from each ward the candidate wishes recounted. Both Mejia and St. Guillen petitioned for citywide recounts after

unofficial results released late on Election Night showed St. Guillen just 10 votes behind Mejia from winning the Council's fourth at-large seat. Later vote tallies showed Mejia ahead by just five votes, and then eight votes by last count at the time the recount began.

Despite weeks of uncertainty over who would take the Council seat, one outcome became clear on Election Night: The Council would see its first Latina member with either candidate.

The recount marked the first citywide recount since 2001, when City Council At-Large Candidate Felix D. Arroyo emerged as the fifth-place vote-getter ahead of opponent Robert Consalvo by just over 60 votes after initially trailing Consalvo by 33 votes.

# Martin J. McDonough Hero Square Dedication

Last Saturday, the latest “Hero Square” was dedicated in memory of another South Boston war hero. Family members, friends of the family, elected officials, representatives from Veterans Services and a crowd of proud and supportive South Bostonians turned out to witness the name of Martin J. McDonough take its place among the more than 1200 other war heroes who names appear on their own ‘Hero Squares all over the City of Boston.

The Martin J. McDonough Hero Square is now located in front of 329A West Broadway in South Boston, directly in front of the Martin J. McDonough veteran’s post which is also named in his honor.

Martin J. McDonough enlisted in the United States navy in 1942 and was soon assigned to active duty. He was then assigned to the USS Juneau, which was a navy cruiser.

The Juneau, which was deployed to the Pacific, fought many battles with McDonough on board. On November 12, 1942, the Juneau was hit by an enemy torpedo and sunk. McDonough was listed as missing at sea and presumed dead.

More than 70 years have passed but South Boston never forgets its veterans, past and present, and that was confirmed once again by the turnout last Saturday. Mayor Martin Walsh, State representative David Biele and City Councilor Ed Flynn all were in attendance to pay tribute and speak well of the fallen hero. John Allison, from Veteran’s Affairs was also there as were members of Martin J. McDonough’s family; among them 2 of his nephews Joey and Johnny McDonough and Paul McDonough, a cousin. Kevin Conroy, a former US Marine was there to play a beautiful rendition of ‘Amazing Grace’ on

the bag pipes that really helped set the tone for this very special event. Also, honoring the gathering with their presence was Colonel Anthony Hinson and the South Boston High School Jr. ROTC. They looked sharp and very professional as they always do in their uniforms.

Susan McDonough, who is commander of the McDonough post (no relation to Martin J.) was the MC of the dedication and did an excellent job putting it together, was presented a plaque that was given to the post to commemorate the occasion and the memory of Martin J. McDonough himself.

The dedication of the hero square was followed by a luncheon at the post and gave those in attendance a chance to socialize, share stories and memories and to get even better acquainted with the value of South Boston’s veteran’s posts and the wonderful work these

organizations do in the neighborhood on behalf of South Boston’s many veterans and their families.

The dedication of the Martin J. McDonough Hero Square last Saturday was another reminder of the tremendous respect the South Boston Community has always had and to this day, still has for all of its veterans. This is a neighborhood that holds its veterans in high esteem for the sacrifices they have made on our nation’s behalf.

NOTE:Did you know that there is a new feature added to Boston’s Hero Squares? At each location, using your smart phone you can photograph the link located on the plaque, then click on the link and you can read an in depth history of the particular veteran that square is named for. This ‘Biographical Plaque’ provides a wealth of information about the veteran’s military career.



# The Wine Guy We Need Backup



Whether you're hosting a Holiday party, Christmas Eve or Christmas Day dinner, it's always a good idea to have some backup.

So, here are a couple of good wines to start with and a nice

backup to finish with.

*Morgan Highland Chardonnay 2017, Chardonnay, Santa Lucia Highlands, Monterey, California, (\$22.99)*, is a wine with pronounced notes of pears, melons and mountain flowers. Perhaps the most highly regarded appellation within Monterey County, Santa Lucia Highlands AVA benefits from a combination of warm morning sunshine and brisk afternoon breezes, allowing grapes to ripen slowly and fully. The result is concentrated, flavorful wines that retain their natural acidity. Wineries here do not shy away from innovation and place a high priority on sustainable viticultural practices. Great for Turkey or ham.

*2018 Kim Crawford New Zealand Pinot Noir (\$19.00)*. With peppercorns, brambly berries, pomegranates, and mineral, this is a Pinot that really drinks much

better than the price would suggest. While we all pretty much know this vineyard's Sauvignon Blanc, its Pinot Noir, like many from New Zealand, is rich, plush and structured, with striking notes of cherries, dark fruits and minerals. Pour this one with Turkey, Ham or even a holiday roast.

*Now, some "backups"- dependable, less expensive wine that's great to finish a meal with.*

*Bogle Chardonnay, California, (\$9.99)* is a wine that we just keep coming back to. For those looking for an echo of a traditional Chardonnay with some warm oak on the value-priced wine shelf, Bogle's California Chard may be the choice. You can find it under \$9 in some of the big outlets including Total Wines and even Walmart. Nice package. Pours clean. Has enough character to suggest more expensive Chardonnays without

going over the "oak" resistance threshold for most people. Pleasant and easy on the pocketbook, this one will keep the enjoyment going with your Turkey or Ham.

*DeLoach Vineyards, Pinot Noir, 2017, California, (\$11.99)*, is owned by the Boisset family of France and the Burgundy aspect shows nicely in this one. The California Pinot Noir is an elegant, well-balanced wine offering mouthwatering flavors of Bing cherry and strawberry accented beautifully with just a touch of spice and hints of forest floor. The wine is light in body, with a medium finish and will pair perfectly with Turkey or Roasts.

Next week, we'll take a look at some Sparkling wines as well as dessert wines to round out your special event.

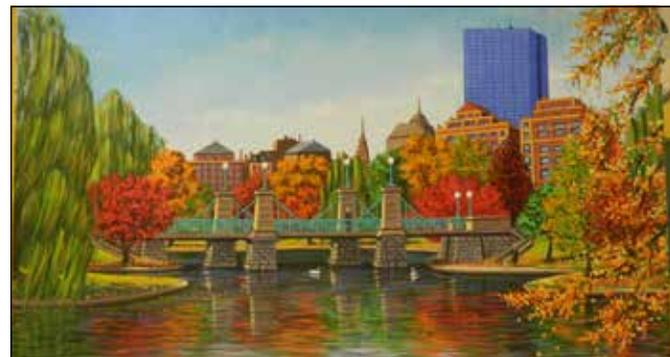
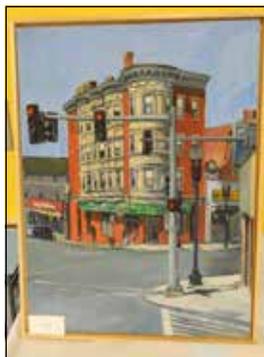
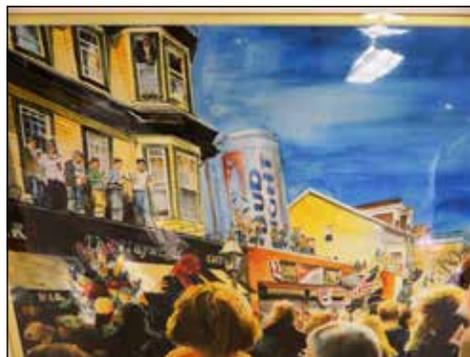
*Talk To The Wine Guy at [jdri8888@gmail.com](mailto:jdri8888@gmail.com)*

## Three Local South Boston Artists Hold Pop Up Art Show

Art, art everywhere! Last weekend our own talented artists; Deb Putnam, Dan McCole and Norman Crump held an Art Show and

Sale at the Curley Community Center. Original painting and prints were for sale and knowledge and experience were complimentary. Everybody needs art so if you're interested

in purchasing a piece of art from one of these creative artists you can reach out at [DputnamArt.com](http://DputnamArt.com), [DanMcCole.com](http://DanMcCole.com) and [NormanCrumpGallery.com](http://NormanCrumpGallery.com).



# Recent South Boston Real Estate Sales

Property/Type	Price	Sale Date	Rooms	Baths	Sq Ft
300 Pier 4 Blvd UNIT 8J Condo	\$3,600,000	8/29/19	5	2	1,831
65 G Street Single Family	\$1,699,000	8/29/19	7	3.5	2,370
793 East Sixth St UNIT 2 Condo	\$1,650,000	8/31/19	7	2	1,857
68 G St UNIT 2 Condo	\$1,000,000	8/28/19	6	2	1,637
658 East Seventh St UNIT 3 Condo	\$899,000	8/31/19	4	2	1,219
45 West Third St UNIT 315 Condo	\$899,000	8/30/19	4	1	960
148 West Ninth ST UNIT 3 Condo	\$735,000	8/28/19	4	2	848
542 Dorchester Ave UNIT 302 Condo	\$735,000	8/29/19	3	2	1,059
39 Dorchester St UNIT 1 Condo	\$725,000	8/30/19	5	2	1,214
584 East Third St UNIT 2 Condo	\$690,000	8/28/19	3	1	860
165 M St UNIT 3 Condo	\$690,000	8/29/19	4	1	1,035
5 Mohawk St UNIT 1 Condo	\$563,500	8/28/19	4	1	760
5 Shepton Terrace Single Family	\$535,000	8/30/19	5	1	920
5 Shepton Terrace UNIT a	\$535,000	8/30/19	5	1	920



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## bpda | Public Meeting

# 776 Summer Street

**Wednesday, December 18** | **BCYF Curley Community Center**  
 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM | 1663 Columbia Road  
 South Boston MA 02127

**Project Proponent:**  
 HRP 776 Summer Street LLC

**Project Description:**  
 HRP 776 Summer Street LLC has filed a Master Planned Development Area application. HRP 776 Summer Street LLC proposes to redevelop an approximately 15.2-acre site located at 776 Summer Street in the South Boston neighborhood. The proposal entails approximately 1.78 million square feet of occupiable space, including: approximately 636 residential units, approximately 960,000 square feet of office/research and development uses, approximately 80,000 square feet of retail uses, 240 hotel rooms, and up 1,214 parking spaces. The proposal will also preserve several historic buildings on the site and provide 5.5 acres of new outdoor public spaces, including approximately 2.5 acres of open space on the waterfront.

mail to: **Tim Czerwienski**  
 Boston Planning & Development Agency  
 One City Hall Square, 9th Floor  
 Boston, MA 02201  
 phone: 617.918.5303  
 email: tim.czerwienski@boston.gov

**Close of Comment Period:**  
 1/3/2020

BostonPlans.org | @BostonPlans  
 Teresa Polhemus, Executive Director/Secretary

## bpda | Public Meeting

# South Boston Innovation Campus

**Thursday, December 19** | **22 Drydock Avenue**  
 6:30 PM | 3rd Floor Conference Room  
 Boston, MA 02210

**Project Description:**  
 BPDA-hosted Article 80 Public Meeting for the proposed redevelopment of the approximately 4.36-acre site located at the intersection of Northern Avenue and the Massport Haul Road on Parcels T and T1 of the Raymond L. Flynn Marine Park. The Proposed Project calls for the demolition of the existing warehouse on-site and construction of a ten (10)-story, approximately 381,000 square foot building including laboratory, research and development, office, and supporting uses. Parking for 325 vehicles is also proposed in surface lots and a below-grade garage.

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:**  
 12/27/2019

BostonPlans.org | @BostonPlans  
 Teresa Polhemus, Executive Director/Secretary

# Annual Condon Senior Christmas Party, Merry and Bright!

**O**n Thursday of last week, the staff of the Condon Community Center hosted their annual Christmas party at St. Peter Lithuanian Church Hall. The Master of Ceremony was none other than the multi-talented and quite entertaining Mark McGonagle.

Seniors from all over South Boston enjoyed a delicious lunch complete with coffee, dessert and raffles. The crowd of about 100 were joined by Senator Nick Collins, State Representative David Biele, City Councilor Ed Flynn and Southie's finest BPD C-6, including the C-6 elf.

One of the best highlights of the event was when Donna Shields requested a change from the Christmas music to the Macarena. As in typical South Boston fashion, the dancing began and our shout outs on the dance floor go to Donna Shields, Mark McGonagle, State

Rep. David Biele, Haley Dillon, BPD Cadets and Helen Lafferty. Who knew? The party was filled with laughter, good food, good company and lots of laughs. 'Tis the season for community, giving and sharing. Well done to the Condon Community staff and volunteers!





# The Enchanted Trolley Tour & Tree Lighting 2019

**M**edal of Honor Park was buzzing with excitement, fun and holiday spirit last Sunday. Animal pens of chickens, rabbits, sheep and goats, oh my! Children were enthralled with petting zoo.

Pony rides for all with a special rainbow, magical pony or was it a unicorn?

Anna and Elsa from Frozen were on hand for pictures and they brought their Frozen bouncy castle which was filled all day long with little

visitors jumping for joy. The Mayor arrived with Santa for the tree lighting countdown and threw the switch to the applause of children, parents, elves, Frosty and Rudolph. Helping the Mayor was State Representative David Biele and City Councilor Ed Flynn. The DJ was playing music, hot chocolate and snacks were provided as well as pizza.

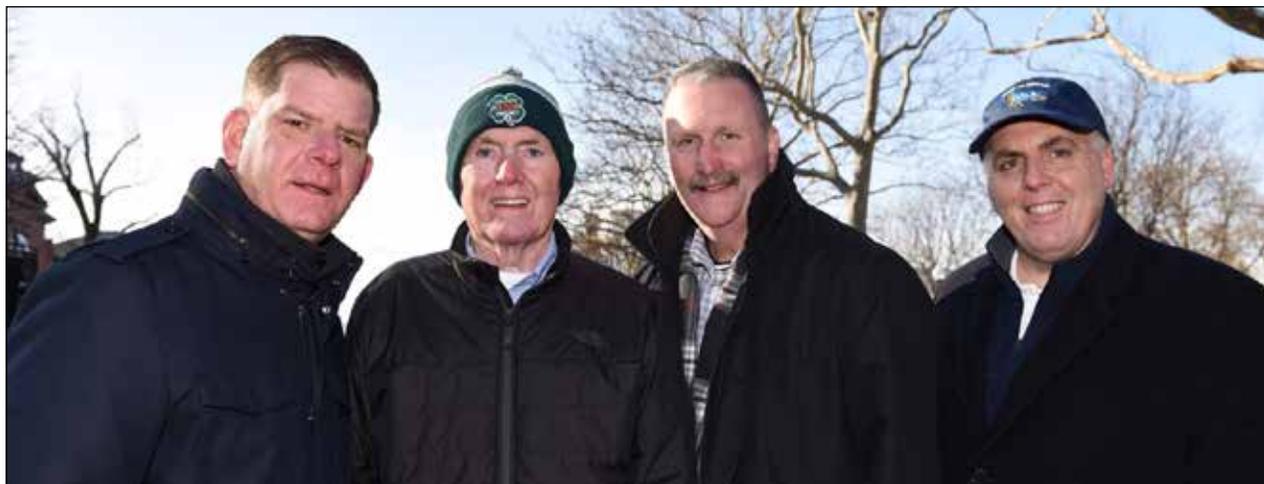
The main attraction this year was a ride on train straight from the North Pole! The train took families for

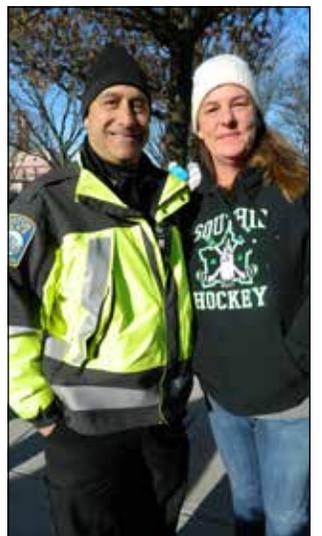
rides around the park and giggles of delight could be heard. Haley Dillon of the Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services did an outstanding job planning, coordinating and bringing this fulfilled event to the entire South Boston community.

"I love the holiday season around Boston. It's a great way to gather together as Bostonians and celebrate our neighbors, the City and our many neighborhoods," said Mayor Walsh. "I'm excited to start the season by

making stops throughout the City for the annual trolley tour and tree lightings. This celebration is a great family tradition for South Bostonians and all Bostonians to come out and enjoy."

For the 24th year, the Mayor's Enchanted Trolley Tour continues the festive tradition of lighting holiday trees while bringing holiday spirit to children across Boston. The event is sponsored by Bank of America, and includes visits with Santa, holiday performances, tree lightings, and more.





# Gatey Hoop Notes

By Kevin Devlin

The Gate of Heaven CYO basketball program is in full throttle with house and travel league teams playing last weekend at the McDonough gym; which is located within the James “Stretch” Walsh Community Center. The Gatey cadet boys’ house league games on Sunday, December 8, were action-packed as both games went into overtime and both games were won at the buzzer.

In the first game, the Metro Energy Club took an early 7-0 lead and later went on an 8-0 run. The

PS Deli Club climbed back into the game and trailed at the break, 28-25. In the second half, the Metro Energy Club went on a 12-3 run to expand its lead, 37-27. The never say die PS Deli Club battled back late in the second half and forced the game into overtime. Then with time running out in OT, Sean Grant (17 points) dribbled the length of the court and laid it in for the game-winning bucket as time expired. The Metro Energy Club won, 55-53.

Metro Energy Club guard, Alex Polena, had a great game knocking down five three-pointers for 15

points. Owen Donovan also came to play scoring 13 points, while Joey Hamilton had 6 six points and a handful of rebounds. For the PS Deli Club which was shorthanded, Max Smith was unstoppable netting 25 points while Ryan MacDonald scored 16 points, including three treys from downtown.

The second game pitting the Jack McDonough Club against the Boston Home Inspector’s Club was even more exciting than the first OT game. The McDonough Club went on an incredible 17-0 run to open up the game, and led at the break, 34-11. The Fat Lady was looking around but in came Boston Home Inspector’s Club star guard, Conor Strickland, who was late for

the game due to JV hoop practice at BC High. Strickland went on a scoring spree (29 points-three treys) leading his team on a 16-0 run to force the game into OT. In overtime, it was a seesaw battle, as Strickland and McDonough Club guard, Aidan Young, hit consecutive jumpers. But it was Young’s three-pointer from the wing as time expired that sealed the deal for his team. The McDonough Club won, 58-56.

Slick and quick McDonough Club star guard, Robert Wisniewski, was terrific netting 27 points while Steve Flynn scored 8 points. For the Boston Home Inspector’s Club, Tristen Pecevich netted 16 points while Cormac Lafferty had 5 points.



Pictured is the METRO ENERGY CLUB coached by Chris DiMaggio. The players pictured are: Owen Donovan, Sean Grant, Alex Polena, Jared McClure, Eddie Tirabassi, Terry Markos, Aidan Coltan, and Joey Hamilton.



Pictured is Coach Chris DiMaggio with player, Sean Grant, who drove the lane and scored at the buzzer to win the game in overtime.



Pictured is the BOSTON HOME INSPECTOR’S CLUB coached by Jake Harrison. The players pictured are: Cormac Lafferty, Jerry O’Neil, Chris Hosea, Mario Blasi, Tristen Pecevich, and Frailyn Suazo.



Pictured last Sunday at the McDonough gym are game officials, Brad Hill (on left) and James Donovan.



Pictured is Acting Coach George Markos with player, Aidan Young, who knocked down a three-pointer as the buzzer sounded to lift his team to victory in overtime.



Pictured is the JOEY EVANS’ CLUB in the Gatey midget house league, coached by Jack Tucker. The players pictured are: Tyler Bell, Bobby Rehm, Ryan Collins, Liam Coltan, Shane Collins, Pat Cherry, Derek Austin, and Griffin Brook.



### NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS (-9.5) over Cincinnati Bengals

-Are we done with the latest edition of "Spygate" yet? Surely, you can't believe the Patriots would risk so much by blatantly filming the 1-12 Bengals from the press box last weekend, right? For the people who want to see the Patriots getting caught doing something shady, this latest story is enough fuel to keep that fire burning strong. But in reality, it's nothing more than a clueless independent videographer who has absolutely no connection to the Patriots football team. So let's move on. The 10-3 Patriots travel to Cincinnati Sunday at 1 p.m. New England can clinch a playoff berth with a win. There's a zero percent chance the Patriots lose this game. But will they cover? The Pats haven't covered a spread since their Week 11 win in Philadelphia back on Nov. 17. They've now lost two straight, the national media is once again calling them cheaters, and with Baltimore taking complete control of the No. 1 seed in the AFC, the No. 2 seed Patriots once again have the perfect amount of bulletin-board material, which should scare the living daylights out of the rest of the league, if we're being hon-

est. Maybe this is the game that Mohamed Sanu makes an impact, against the team that drafted him in the third round back in 2012. Either way, the Patriots will find a way to win this one by at least two touchdowns. Cover.

### CLEVELAND BROWNS (-2.5) over Arizona Cardinals

-This game is Sunday at 4:05 in Arizona. Both teams are under .500, but only one is still alive in the playoff race, and that's Cleveland. The 6-7 Browns have won four of their last five, and two of those wins are against current playoff teams, Buffalo and Pittsburgh. The Browns are competing with those two teams for a Wild Card spot in the AFC. They don't control their own destiny, but if Buffalo beats Pittsburgh on Sunday night, then Cleveland is even more alive in the hunt for the No. 6 seed. My point is, the Browns know they have to win their final three games to have a shot, and they can't afford to lose to a 3-9-1 Cardinals team that's lost six straight. Baker Mayfield has a flair for the dramatic. Give me Cleveland to win by three.

### DALLAS COWBOYS (+1) over Los Angeles Rams

-Just when you think you've got the league figured out, the Cowboys will

take care of the Rams. This one was almost my lock of the week. Dallas is 6-7 and has lost three straight, yet, the Cowboys are still in first place in the NFC East and would be the No. 4 seed if the playoffs began today. Meanwhile, the 8-5 Rams have won two straight and are coming off a huge win over Seattle. LA is still alive for a Wild Card spot in the NFC, but if the playoffs began today, they'd be on the outside looking in. This one is a must-win for both teams, but I expect Dallas to snap out of whatever funk they're in at home on Sunday at 4:25. This is going to sound weird, but Dallas could be a pretty dangerous team in the playoffs if their coach could get his head out of his behind. The Cowboys will win this game and get back to .500.

### BUFFALO BILLS (+2.5) over Pittsburgh Steelers

-Who would've thought we'd see the Bills vs Steelers flexed into the Sunday Night Football game of the week? This was supposed to be Vikings vs Chargers, but since the Chargers have been eliminated from playoff contention, we get Pittsburgh hosting Buffalo. The 9-4 Bills can clinch a playoff berth with a win, and that's what I'm betting on. The Steelers are 8-5 and nothing

is guaranteed for them. It's a battle between two young quarterbacks, and while Pittsburgh rookie Duck Hodges is getting a lot of praise right now, second-year QB Josh Allen has a great opportunity in front of him. Give me the Bills in a low-scoring game to cover, win, and clinch a playoff spot.

### LOCK OF THE WEEK: HOUSTON TEXANS (+3) over Tennessee Titans

-The 8-5 Texans beat the Patriots and then, a week later, lost to the lowly Denver Broncos. I actually took the Broncos to cover the 9-point spread last week, but I didn't expect Denver to win that game. This game is Sunday at 1 in Tennessee, and while the 8-5 Titans have won four straight, this pick was easy for me. Houston is the better team, top to bottom, and there's no way they should be an underdog in this game, I don't care where it's being played. The Texans bounce back in a big way with a big win on the road. I'll take Houston all day.

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# SPORTS TODAY

## NFL INVESTIGATING PATRIOTS' INVOLVEMENT IN FILMING OF BENGALS' SIDELINE

SBT Staff

The New England Patriots are once again being investigated for spying on an opponent. This time, that opponent is the Cincinnati Bengals.

Last Sunday, a videographer from Kraft Sports Productions was caught filming the field from the press box, which included the Bengals' sideline, in their Week 14 game against the Browns in Cleveland. According to reports — and also according to the Patriots — the reason a Kraft Sports film crew was in Cleveland for the Bengals vs Browns game was to capture video for their web series, "Do Your Job," which highlighted the work of a Patriots advanced scout.

The advanced scout was doing his job and scouting the Bengals, as the Patriots play in Cincinnati this Sunday at 1 p.m. But when the videographer turned the camera's attention to the field, members of the Bengals' organization and the NFL stepped in and confiscated the video card.

On Monday night, the Patriots released a statement that acknowledged the production crew "inappropriately filmed the field from the press box," but also said there's no connection between that "independent" production crew and the football team.

"The production crew is independent of our football operation. While aware that one of the scouts was being profiled for a "Do Your Job" episode, our football staff had no other involvement whatsoever in the planning, filming or creative decisions made during the production of these features. We accept full responsibility for the actions of our production crew at the Browns-Bengals game."

## Tweet of the Week New England Patriots @Patriots

### STATEMENT FROM THE NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS

For the past year, the New England Patriots content team has produced a series of behind-the-scenes features on various departments within the organization. The seven previous "Do Your Job" episodes are archived on patriots.com. On Sunday, Dec. 8, the content team sent a three-person video crew to the Bengals-Browns game at FirstEnergy Stadium in order to capture one part of a longer feature on the Patriots scouting department, in this case a Patriots pro personnel scout while he was working in the press box.

While we sought and were granted credentialed access from the Cleveland Browns for the video crew, our failure to inform the Bengals and the League was an unintended oversight. In addition to filming the scout, the production crew — without specific knowledge of League rules — inappropriately filmed the field from the press box. The sole purpose of the filming was to provide an illustration of an advance scout at work on the road. There was no intention of using the footage for any other purpose. We understand and acknowledge that our video crew, which included independent contractors who shot the video, unknowingly violated a league policy by filming the field and sideline from the press box. When questioned, the crew immediately turned over all footage to the league and cooperated fully.

The production crew is independent of our football operation. While aware that one of the scouts was being profiled for a "Do Your Job" episode, our football staff had no other involvement whatsoever in the planning, filming or creative decisions made during the production of these features.

We accept full responsibility for the actions of our production crew at the Browns-Bengals game.

## PATRIOTS LOOK TO SNAP TWO-GAME LOSING SKID IN CINCINNATI

SBT Staff

Sunday's loss to the Kansas City Chiefs marked the Patriots' second straight loss, and their first loss at home this season. Now, New England heads to Cincinnati to take on the 1-12 Bengals, who would have the No. 1 overall pick in this year's Draft if the season ended today.

The Patriots should have no problem with Cincy on Sunday at 1 p.m., for multiple reasons. First off, there's more incentive for the Bengals to lose than there is to win at this point, given their current spot in the projected Draft order. Second, the Patriots have to assume the 9-4 Chiefs will win out and finish 12-4. If that happens, then the Pats can't afford to lose a single game in their final three against the Bengals, Bills, or Dolphins, or they'll lose the head-to-head tiebreaker with Kansas City and would miss out on a first-round bye.

As a 9.5-point favorite, New England can clinch a playoff berth with a win or a tie on Sunday in Cincinnati.

## WHAT TO WATCH

**NFL Week 15**  
**THURSDAY, DEC. 12**  
NY Jets at Baltimore (-15)  
8:20 P.M. FOX/NFLN

**SUNDAY, DEC. 15**  
New England (-9.5) at Cincinnati  
1 P.M. CBS

LA Rams (-1) at Dallas  
4:25 P.M. FOX

Buffalo at Pittsburgh (-2.5)  
8:20 P.M. NBC

**MONDAY, DEC. 16**  
Indianapolis at New Orleans (-9)  
8:15 P.M. ESPN



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