



An Election Year Like No Other

There is a November Presidential election that will soon begin heating up broadcast, paid and social media outlets. There is a Massachusetts US Senate Democratic Primary race, scheduled for September 1st, between Senator Ed Markey and Congressman Joe Kennedy that is being billed by pundits as a “who is the more progres-

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EDITORIAL

Selective Enforcement, Changing Predictions Raising Suspicions About COVID-19

Back in March, when this Covid/Virus took center stage, if anyone told us that in August, it would still be an issue, most people would have doubted it. We were told it would peak in a month, then be gone. Then we were assured by Fauci and others to just hang in, do what we tell you and everything will be fine. Later we were told that hot weather and sunshine kills the virus. Well, we've had plenty of both this summer

and now when asked about their assurances that the summer weather would kill it, they change the subject.

Masks are good and then they are not and then they are good again. Hospitals have been caught inflating the number of deaths caused by Covid. Documented cases of the virus being blamed for people killed in motorcycle accidents, drowning, cancer related issues, heart attacks and any number of other non-Covid related deaths is troubling

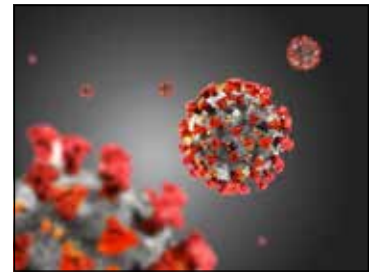
and some reports have exposed the reason behind this as being that additional funding will be provided to certain hospitals for Covid related deaths.

Bars, restaurants, gyms and health clubs and so many other small businesses are being forced to stay closed or open with just limited access which is causing them to go under. Now, the governor is even threatening legal action and fines against back yard family gatherings.

And yet, if Black Lives

Matter holds a protest with hundreds of people shoulder to shoulder, it's a safe bet that this governor and other obviously intimidated politicians would not dare to interfere and most people are now feeling certain of this.

These inconsistencies are so blatant and numerous that it causes anger, confusion and a willingness of many to throw caution to the wind and just do whatever they want, because they have grown weary of the selective enforcement. That goes for



the confusion, the constantly changing stories and predictions and even the suspected political motivation behind some of these predictions and mandates as well. So, who can blame the growing number of people for saying that they have had enough?

“Breathe the sweetness that hovers in August” - Denise Livertov

You've got to read...

My two books, *The Southie Pact*, and the sequel, *Hope and Despair*, *The Southie Pact Part Two* are works of fiction set in South Boston. Although set in Southie, these two books depict the untimely deaths resulting from drug addiction which is affecting every community in the nation. They illustrate the grief, sadness, heartache, and despair loved one's experience when they are left behind with memories of what was; and thoughts of what should have been.

In the first book a group of teenagers swear to a

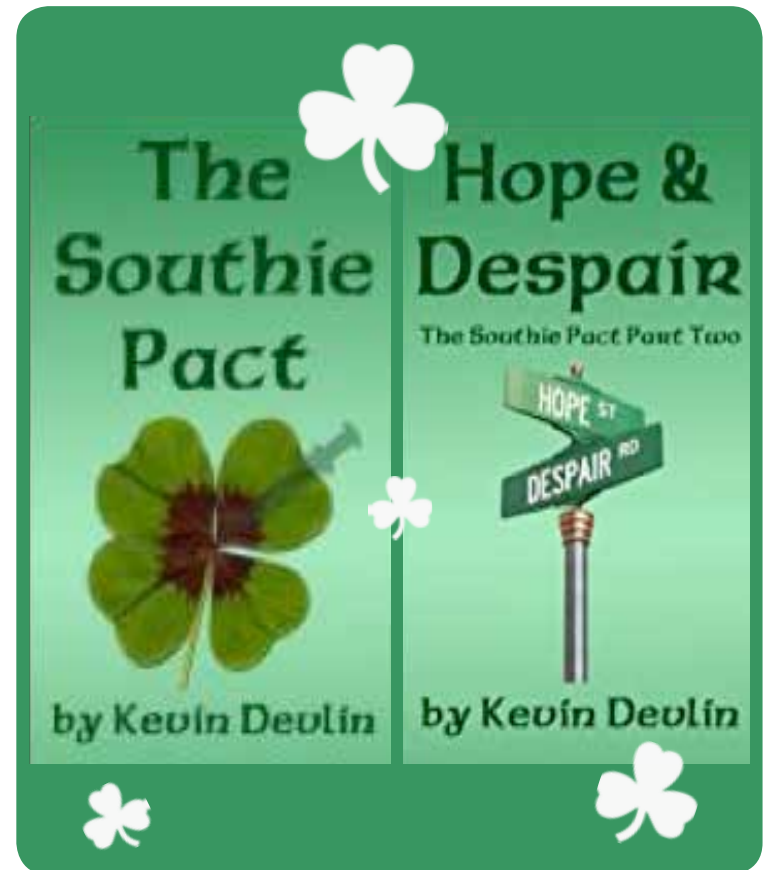
Pact not to see anymore of their friends die from drug overdoses, but as time passes, those involved with this pledge can't keep their promise. In the sequel, new characters are introduced and the struggle against drug addiction continues.

Thousands and thousands of Americans die from drug overdoses each year. From 1999 through 2017, 702,000 Americans died from drug overdoses. In 2016, 64,070 died (116 Americans per day), in 2017, 72,237 died, in 2018, 67,367 died, and in 2019, over 70,000 died.



And this virus of addiction is not going away, only worsening with each passing day.

These two books are available on AMAZON.COM in paperback and kindle.



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The Information Center



A Theory About The Bizarre Behavior From Politicians And Professors

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY

John Ciccone

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

A few interesting observations from around the nation for those who say they get a kick out of the 'What's Racist This Week' feature that often appears in this column. It should surprise no one that this week's proclamations of what's racist now come from college professors. The first one is 'math'. Yes folks, math being taught or the fact that math even exists has been deemed as racist and a product of 'White Supremacy'. But isn't everything now? Last weekend we learned from another college professor who declared that teaching 'history' is also racist.

Oh, but there is more from the intellectual moonbats that so many parents are paying a fortune to have indoctrinate their kids. Farmer's Markets are racist as is friendship. Remember the Total Solar Eclipse of 2 years ago? Yup, it was racist. The Bible is racist as well as pollution, college football, singing Jingle Bells, the Nuclear Family and even showing up on time. All of it, we are now learning is racist. We could fill up the entire newspaper with things that the progressive, liberal, Socialist and Communist professors who infest our nation's colleges and universities have labeled as racist. But I'd rather save some for other columns to stretch out the entertainment. Again, this is who is teaching American kids. I'm betting a good Trade School is looking better all the time for the parents of high school students who will be graduating in the near future.

The Annual Sturgis Motorcycle Rally held in South Dakota. Everyone who owns or used to own a bike knows what this is. It's a massive and beautiful event where literally hundreds of thousands

of patriotic Bikers gather every August for races, live music and plenty of partying. I've never been there myself but friends of mine tell me it's an experience like no other held near the Mount Rushmore monument.

Well, the word this year was that Antifa and Black Lives Matter and other anarchists had plans to go there to protest and disrupt it because there were just too many darn American Flags and patriotic and proud Americans who needed to be taught a lesson. The Sturgis participants; hearing this threat, sent out the word to 'bring it on'. Just try to disrupt it. They'd be ready and waiting. But what do you think? The anarchists were a no-show. Can't imagine why.

The Democrat run cities around the country that have been experiencing the rioting and looting are now almost begging President Trump to send aid. They don't want the aid to be in the form of law enforcement personnel to end the rioting. Oh no. They want federal dollars to rebuild what these mayors have allowed the rioters to destroy as they watch businesses pack up and leave and relocate to more stable, non Democrat run cities. So, the mayors have allowed billions of dollars in destruction to take place and now want the American tax payers to bail them out. They have a lot of nerve to make these demands. Too bad they didn't have the nerve or the will or the competence to quell the riots. The president is saying 'no way' to these mayors. I hope he stands by that decision.

In Seattle, that city's municipal council is made up of a majority of liberal radicals and it's mayor is of the same ilk. They finally

did what they said they would do. They voted to disband their police department and have so far, voted to cut it's police force budget to the bone. This is how these leftist radicals deal with rampaging criminals. They neuter their police force. There are some who would say that anyone who would vote to do such a thing must be brain dead. But that can safely be ruled out. If the brain was totally dead, these city councilors couldn't perform basic functions like eating, standing, walking, speaking

or taking care of personal hygiene. So no, they couldn't be brain dead. The more common theory now is that they are perhaps suffering from a chemical imbalance of the cranium which causes the idiotic behavior they display. With the exception of our own local councilors Mike Flaherty and Ed Flynn and one or two others on the Boston City Council, the chemical imbalance theory might be what's causing a few of their council colleagues to come up with some of the wacky ideas they have.

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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.

So why doesn't Massachusetts have school-reopening metrics like other states?

WBUR's Max Larkin reports that many major school districts in Massachusetts are opting for some form of remote learning this fall, such as "hybrid" models, which Commonwealth's Shira Schoenberg tries to explain in a separate piece. But some parents and others are wondering why so many districts are favoring remote learning even when coronavirus case rates are super low in many communities, as the Globe's James Vaznis reports. We're talking well below the World Health Organization recommended infection-rate level for resuming in-person classes. And some are wondering why the state hasn't established specific criteria/requirements for in-person classes, as is the case

in New York, Maine, and other states, Vaznis writes.

Tufts under pressure after UMass-Lowell and Holy Cross announce they're going mostly remote

The Herald's Rick Sobey reports that Tufts University, which plans to partially reopen its Medford-Somerville campus this fall to students, is now under pressure from the mayors of the two cities to reduce the number of students on or near campus during the coming semester. The pressure comes as an increasing number of colleges opt for mostly remote learning this fall, the latest being UMass-Lowell (Herald) and Holy Cross.

Landlords actually offering tenants rental deals? In Massachusetts?

The world has definitely been turned upside down – at least in

Massachusetts and a few other states – when apartment landlords are being forced to think the once unthinkable: actually offering bargains to potential tenants, from waiving fees to actually lowering rent prices. Sofia Rivera at Boston Magazine has more. It has to do, partly, to a lack of college students vying for apartments in the region. See above Tufts item.

Some question Baker's plan for roving teams of pandemic-rule enforcers

From the Herald's Erin Tiernan: "A new state initiative that will slap people who violate coronavirus mask and gathering orders with fines of up to \$500 is slated to start Tuesday but with details still scant, there is growing concern the program could do more harm than good in the hard-hit communities it's intended to help."

Election Year continued from front page
sive candidate" or "how far left" can you go; or should you go. Across the country, relatively unknown single-issue democratic activists are challenging and, in some cases, defeating formerly 'safe' office holders in the name of a 'new activism' that some say use fear tactics as a core strategy. Fear of ___ fill in the blank. Then there is the Covid-19 Virus. The combination is unprecedented, and the resulting fallout is consequently unpredictable.

But what about the rest of Massachusetts? And especially South Boston and Boston. September 1st is election day for the following candidates.

Congressman Stephen Lynch, seeking a 10th term in Congress representing the 8th Congressional District, is being challenged by Dr. Robbie Goldstein, a newcomer to politics. It is a classic race between a seasoned and effective legislator and a person with a socially progressive agenda that Lynch argues creates

headlines, but will never deliver critical resources to the constituencies of Boston and the South Shore.

Senator Nick Collins, seeking reelection to the Senate seat he has held since 2018, represents what is considered the most ethnically and socio-economically diverse Senate District in the Commonwealth. He has a track record of delivering critical financial resources to key service agencies throughout his district in the areas of health care, public safety, nutrition and other children's services, along with after-care services for single mothers and those afflicted with substance abuse. He is being challenged by Samuel Pierce of Dorchester, a relatively unknown, self-described political activist whose campaign focuses on social issues and seemingly defers on the realities of the job of a legislator. Nonetheless, he is a candidate, and Collins is not taking him lightly, given the unpredictability of this election

which includes the new 'vote by mail', in addition to traditional election day voting.

Representative David Biele, of South Boston, is up for election as well, but will not have a challenger this term. He touts his ability to work well with the other elected officials in an effort to present a unified front on key issues. He has an active constituent services program that keeps him in touch with the neighborhood.

It is important to take the time to vote either by the new mail in voting process already underway or by voting in person on September 1st.

The bottom line is that this election on September 1st is important for so many different reasons, the most important of which is to maintain the type of local leadership that does its best to foster and integrate the social, economic, cultural and political energy of the neighborhoods that create opportunity and also maintain a healthy environment for all of its citizens.

CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

Docket No. SU20P0939EA

**Commonwealth Of
Massachusetts
The Trial Court**

Probate and Family Court

Estate of: Mary Margaret Reaney

Also known as: Mary M. Reaney

Date of Death: 02/11/2020

Suffolk Probate and Family Court

24 New Chardon Street

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Richard A. Robb of Peabody MA

requesting that the Court enter

a formal Decree and Order and

for such other relief as requested

in the Petition. The Petitioner

requests that:

Richard A. Robb of Peabody

MA be appointed as Personal

Representative(s) of said estate to

serve **Without Surety** on the bond

in **an unsupervised** administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy

of the Petition from the Petitioner

or at the Court. You have a right to

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so, you or your attorney must file a

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at this Court before: **10:00 a.m.**

on the return day of 09/17/2020.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a

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of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn,

First Justice of this Court.

August 06, 2020

Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate

August 13, 2020

SEN. COLLINS, REP. BIELE ANNOUNCE COMMITMENT TO MAINTAIN FUNDING FOR EDUCATION AND LOCAL AID



State Senator Nick Collins and State Representative David Biele joined their colleagues in the Massachusetts Legislature and Governor Baker to announce that local municipalities and school

districts will not face cuts in state Chapter 70 education funding or in local aid to cities and towns municipalities for fiscal year 2021.

The Commonwealth will maintain funding for unrestricted general gov-

ernment aid for cities and towns at last year's levels. The state will also fund Chapter 70 aid for schools and education at no less than last year's funding. Equally important, this funding commitment for education will also take into account inflation and changes in enrollment, providing an additional \$107 million in state aid for education.

Locally, these commitments will provide the City of Boston with over \$221 million in Chapter 70 funding for education and over \$201 million in unrestricted general government aid.

"During these challenging times, it is imperative that we don't lose sight of the fundamental responsibility to provide equitable funding so that all our children have access to a quality education," said Senator Collins. "I

am proud to stand up and fight for this funding, and will continue to support our schools, teachers, and students who most need assistance."

"As we continue to face challenges brought on by COVID-19, this commitment to maintain funding for education and local aid will help cities and towns meet their immediate needs and support our schools," said Rep. Biele. "This funding will help provide some stability during these uncertain times, and I will continue to work with my colleagues in government to support our communities."

In addition to maintaining state funding for local aid and education, school districts and municipalities have also received \$1 billion in assistance to respond to COVID-19.



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Vote By Mail – Making This Election So Important

If you are a registered voter here in Massachusetts, chances are you've received a folded-up card in the mail in recent weeks with the words "Official 2020 Vote by Mail Application" emblazoned on it in big block lettering. Yes. This year, due to public health concerns related to the COVID-19 pandemic, all Massachusetts voters can opt to vote by mail.

Earlier this month, Gov. Charlie Baker signed a law that extended this option to vote by mail to all Bay State voters for both the Sept. 1 state primary and the Nov. 3 general election. As part of that law, the secretary of the commonwealth was required to mail these applications for mail-in ballots to each of Massachusetts' 4.5 million registered voters. This unprecedented change in how Massachusetts residents can vote left WGBH reporters with a number of questions about how it's all going to work. Here's what they've learned.

1. Do I have to vote by mail?

Can I just ignore all of this and vote in person?

In-person voting will still be an option for anyone who doesn't want to vote by mail.

2. What do I do if I haven't received a vote-by-mail application?

You can download and print out an application:

<https://www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/elepdf/2020-Vote-by-Mail-Application.pdf>

Or you can write a letter to Boston Election Department.

3. What's the deadline for applying for my vote-by-mail ballot?

There are separate deadlines for the state primary and the general election, but you can request ballots for both elections by filling out that single form. Your application for a vote-by-mail ballot for the state primary must be received by 5 p.m. on Aug. 26. Your application for a vote-by-mail ballot for the November general election must be received by 5 p.m. on Oct. 28.

These are both "received by" deadlines and not "postmarked by" deadlines.

4. Who pays for postage? "US Postage Paid"



5. Can I apply for my vote-by-mail ballot online or over the phone instead of filling out the form and mailing it back?

According to the Secretary of the commonwealth's office, "all applications must be in writing."

You can also fax your application to Boston Election Department.

6. If I would normally apply for an absentee ballot, should I still do that? Or does mail-in voting replace the absentee ballot this year?

Vote-by-mail ballots are available to all voters this year, but absentee ballots do still exist.

More information about how to apply for an absentee ballot is available:

<https://www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/eleabsentee/absidx.htm>

7. If I apply for a vote-by-mail ballot, am I locked into voting by mail? Can I change my mind and vote in-person instead?

You do not have to vote by mail if you apply for and receive a vote-by-mail ballot. If the Boston election department has not received and validated your mail-in ballot by Election Day — Sept. 1 for the primary and Nov. 3 for the general election — you can still vote in person.

8. What do I do if I lose or damage my mail-in ballot once I receive it? Can I get another one? You can.

But it will take some time. You can return a damaged ballot to Boston election department with a note indicating that you are "spoiling your ballot" and need a new one sent to you.

9. I'm worried my vote won't be counted if I vote by mail. What might render my mail-in ballot invalid in Massachusetts?

Your ballot will be rejected if:

- You missed the deadline to submit your ballot.
- Your ballot envelope is not signed.
- You have already voted in person.

10. If I vote by mail, will I receive confirmation that my vote was counted?

All accepted ballots will be counted. You won't be notified that your vote has been tallied, but you will be if your ballot is not accepted. You can proactively confirm that your mail-in ballot was accepted at www.TrackMyBallotMA.com.

11. What mechanisms are in place to ensure people don't accidentally — or intentionally — vote by mail and then again in person?

Once a ballot reaches a local election office, the clerk must check the ballot envelope to make sure it is signed by the voter. As long as the ballot envelope is properly completed, the voter is then checked off on the voter list that will be used during early voting and at the polling places

on Election Day, so the voter will not be able to vote again,

12. Will I have to show an ID with my mail-in ballot?

You might. First-time voters to show ID if they registered to vote by mail and their identity has not been confirmed.

13. How will officials tabulate the results? What is the expected time frame for this?

All ballots, whether filled out in-person or submitted by mail, get fed into the ballot box. About five dozen smaller Massachusetts municipalities still count votes by hand. In most cities and towns, votes are processed through an optical scan machine. Any vote that is processed — in person or by mail — is required to happen "in full view of the public." In general, mail-in ballots are processed at the polling location where each voter would have cast an in-person ballot.

Poll workers are required to announce to anyone present when they are processing mail-in ballots at a polling location.

By state law, official Primary election results must be certified by local election officials within four days of the Election. For the November general election, local election officials must certify the results within 15 days of Election Day.

Councilors Flynn & Flaherty Announce COVID-19 Testing at Moakley Park



Boston City Councilor Ed Flynn and Councilor At-Large Michael Flaherty announced a new COVID-19 pop-up testing site at Moakley Park in South Boston, part of the City of Boston's ongoing efforts to promote and increase testing capacity for residents. These pop up testing sites over several weeks in South Boston are being done in partnership with the Boston Public Health Commission and Health & Human Services Chief Marty Martinez, Mayor Marty Walsh, Congressman Stephen Lynch, Senator Nick Collins, and State Representative David Biele as well.

This new pop-up testing site is located in tents along Old Colony Ave near 1187 Columbia Road, in proximity to the Joe Moakley Park Tennis Courts. Testing at this site will run this week from Tuesday, August 11th to Saturday, August 15th. Hours range Tuesday-Friday from 2pm-7pm, while it will run from 10am-3pm on Saturday.

Testing is available to residents regardless of symptoms at no cost. In the interest of time, residents may pre-register at 617-568-4500. No appointment is necessary; however, on site registration is required to receive

testing results. Testing will be provided by East Boston Neighborhood Health Center, in partnership with Harbor Health. Previous testing sites recently coordinated by the South Boston Community Health Center included one this week outside the Condon Community Center, along with testing last week outside the Tierney Community Center.

"I encourage my friends and neighbors to get tested for COVID-19 to allow our public health officials to isolate and treat those infected by the virus. Mass testing is one of the most important

tools we have to limit its spread; along with contact tracing, wearing masks, physical distancing, avoiding crowds, and washing hands frequently," said Councilor Flynn. "I want to thank the South Boston Community Health Center, East Boston Neighborhood Health Center and Harbor Health for providing this critical public service and outreach."

"As we continue to tailor our COVID-19 response to meet the needs of our communities, one of the most critically important things we can do is to provide easy access to testing," said Councilor Flaherty. "Thanks to this unified effort between state and local government and our community health centers, we are better positioned to provide more widely available testing. I highly encourage anyone who thinks for any reason that they may need to be tested, to take advantage of this free resource. Please do not hesitate-- for your own health and safety and for that of your community."

For more information, please contact East Boston Neighborhood Health Center at 617-568-4500, or visit <https://ebnhc.org/en/visitorpatient-info/covid-19/covid-19-testing.html>.

John 'Jackie' O'Brien Dedication This Saturday, August 15th at 10am



John OBrien

@John-OBrien-187

SBT Staff Report

This Saturday, August 15th, at 10am the dedication of the new street hockey court at Moakley Park in honor of John 'Jackie' O'Brien will take place. The dedication, in the name of one of South Boston's

most well known and well loved neighborhood heroes will coincide with the big 'First Danglefest Street Hockey Tournament', which is sure to thrill even the most avid sports fans with fast moving action.

The dedication is open to the public and 'Jackie' O'Brien himself will be on hand to meet and greet all.

John 'Jackie' O'Brien is known for his dedication, his hard work and great generosity to South Boston's many good causes over so many years. He has helped countless people for generations, but never does it for recognition or praise. Jackie's good deeds to the neighborhood have always been a true labor of love. He has always had as his goal, to give back to

the town that has been so good to him and to his family. So, a committee was formed with the intention of recognizing Jack O'Brien's good work and to say thank you to a good and kind man for his community service. It is hoped that his many friends and neighbors will join Jackie on Saturday to enjoy his company, show appreciation for his hard work and together, witness some great hockey action at the brand new John 'Jackie' O'Brien Street Hockey Court. Again, it will be this Saturday, August 15th at 10am and everyone is invited.

Note: T-Shirts will be sold the day of the event for \$10. All proceeds will be going to the event, the dedication and to South Boston youth clubs and teams.



The Wine Guy

Cool and Refreshing



If ever there were two words that describe the things people wished they had in their hands over the past weeks of high heat and deep humidity, these are them. Here are some white wines that fit the bill- and then some...

Tokara Elgin Sauvignon Blanc, 2018, Reserve Collection, (\$18.99), is one of the wines that you can count on one hand that Robert Parker has scored 90 points and that's priced under twenty dollars. He described it as, "undeniably Sauvignon Blanc with the classic

expressions of gooseberry, grapefruits with asparagus and green bell pepper aromas on the nose. In the mouth, the wine is energetic, alive with crisp acidity and for those who enjoy New Zealand Sauvignon Blanc, you are sure to enjoy this wine. Medium-bodied, the wine ends with a crisp, zippy finish, having never seen oak". Drink this wine ice cold; find a shady spot, have a glass or two and you won't even notice the heat.

For those of you who haven't really had much of this wine born in the Loire Valley, make a change and start with **Delaire Graff Chenin Blanc, 2017, Swartland, South Africa, (\$27.99)**. Diamond merchant Laurence Graff bought this estate in 2003, turning the property into an expansive, art-filled Relais & Château resort, and building a new winery. Morné Vray makes the wines, sourcing this one from old bush vines, the fruit whole-bunch pressed and fermented in French oak barrels, where it then rests without any lees stirring or malolactic fermentation. The result is a powerful wine. The warm wood tones combine with the fruit to

build a richness akin to marzipan while the acidity keeps the wine balanced and firm. Notes of truffles and bee pollen add to the impression of lush elegance, but the wine never gets too heavy. Enjoy this one with a Rainbow Trout or some lightly fried Nantucket scallops.

Closer to home, **Foppiano Russian River Sauvignon Blanc, 2018, Sonoma, California, (\$22.99)**, will give you a decidedly different kind of glass. This wine seamlessly incorporates the best of both the lush tropical style and the brighter citrusy style. The results are aromas of ripe lemon zest, and fresh cut grass. Kiwi lemonade and red stone fruit dominate the pallet, while a full fruit, long finish makes this the perfect wine for the warm days of summer. This family has been making wines in California for over 120 years and this wine's vineyards, located in Sonoma's Russian River Valley, will give you some of the best that Sonoma has to offer.

If you're looking for something that sparkles, look for a bottle of **Scharffenberger Brut" Excellence", NV, Mendocino, Cali-**



fornia, (\$27.99). Scharffenberger Brut Excellence is made by the traditional méthode champenoise process – whereby the wines are individually bottle-fermented before being riddled and disgorged. The wine is approximately two-thirds Pinot Noir and one-third Chardonnay and undergoes 100% malolactic fermentation. Scharffenberger Brut is made from its own 120-acre vineyards in the Anderson Valley. In addition, Scharffenberger Cellars has long-term contracts with select vineyards in the greater Mendocino County. You'll find notes of caramel and honey, as well as fresh-baked bread and a long, smooth finish; have a glass of this one with some raw oysters and lemon juice.

Talk To The Wine Guy at jdris8888@gmail.com



Making Waves Since 1986
www.savetheharbor.org

212 Northern Avenue - Suite 304 West - Boston, MA 02210
 Telephone: 617-451-2860

South Boston Students Help Share Boston Harbor Virtually This Summer

Two South Boston students are making the most of this unusual summer, working as Junior Program Assistants at local nonprofit Save the Harbor/Save the Bay's Youth Environmental Education Programs. They're still fishing, crabbing, and teaching local families about the marine environment like they would during any other summer — but with technology like video and drones, they're connecting with local kids and families completely virtually.

In a typical summer, Save the Harbor/Save the Bay's programs

serve more than 30,000 youth, teens and families on Boston Harbor, the waterfront, the region's public beaches, and in the Boston Harbor Islands.

However, this is definitely not a typical summer. Because the COVID-19 pandemic has forced youth development and community organizations to rethink their summer programs to prevent the social spread of the disease, Save the Harbor summer staffers have rapidly adapted to a new way of learning and teaching.

Instead of helping Save the

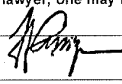
Harbor share Boston's spectacular harbor, islands and beaches with busloads and boatloads of young people face-to-face, these two summer staffers are working to create virtual Boston Harbor programming through YouTube, Facebook, and Instagram, and on Save the Harbor's blog Sea, Sand & Sky.


Qalid Hassan talks about how he's determined to continue his work even under the challenging conditions. He says, "Despite the pandemic, and all the circumstances not allowing for another summer of programming, I will keep going.

I will work to provide educational content and marine science-based lessons for kids in the Greater Boston Area. That is my position here at Save the Harbor: to keep going." 18-year-old Hassan graduated from Boston Latin School this year and will be attending the University of Massachusetts, Amherst in the fall. This is Hassan's fourth year returning to work with Save the Harbor.

17-year-old McRae Wiederer, who attends the O'Bryant School, says she is "most looking forward to learning more about Boston's history. I grew

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CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION TO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPAND <input type="checkbox"/> MODIFY <input type="checkbox"/> LIMIT THE POWERS OF A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GUARDIAN AND/OR <input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATOR		Docket No. SU15P0157GD	Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court
In the Interests of: Michael Nesbitt of South Boston, MA		RESPONDENT Incapacitated Person/Protected Person	
To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Boston Medical Center of Boston, MA in the above captioned matter requesting that the court:		Suffolk Probate and Family Court 24 New Chardon Street Boston MA, 02114	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Expand the powers of a <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Guardian and/or <input type="checkbox"/> Conservator of the Respondent <input type="checkbox"/> Modify the powers of a <input type="checkbox"/> Guardian and/or <input type="checkbox"/> Conservator of the Respondent <input type="checkbox"/> Limit the powers of a <input type="checkbox"/> Guardian and/or <input type="checkbox"/> Conservator of the Respondent			
The petition asks the court to make a determination that the powers of the Guardian and/or Conservator should be expanded, modified, or limited since the time of the appointment. The original petition is on file with the court.			
<p>You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of 09/03/2020. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.</p> <p align="center">IMPORTANT NOTICE</p> <p>The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.</p>			
WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: August 03, 2020		 Register of Probate	
ORDER OF NOTICE			
It is ORDERED that a copy of this citation be:			
Served, with a copy of the petition, in hand to Michael Nesbitt by a disinterested person at least <u>Fourteen (14)</u> days prior to the return date; or if applicable, pursuant to G.L. c. 190B, §5-405, by leaving a copy of the petition and citation at the Respondent's last and usual place of abode; and			
Served on the Department of Developmental Services and/or the United States Department of Veterans' Affairs, if interested, and served on all other interested persons at least <u>Fourteen (14)</u> days prior to the return date by delivering in hand or by mailing by certified, registered, or first-class mail as described in G.L. c. 190B, §§1-401, 5-304, 5-405 as applicable; or by publishing a copy of the citation once in <u>South Boston Today</u> <u>South Boston, MA</u> , publication to be at least <u>Seven (7)</u> days prior to the return date. (Newspaper) (Newspaper city/town)			


Virtual Public Meeting

244-284 A Street

Wednesday, August 26
5:30 PM


Zoom Registration Link
bit.ly/31yqi2a


Project Proponent:
ChannelSide Acquisitions, LLC

Project Description:
ChannelSide Acquisitions, LLC (the "Proponent"), an affiliate of Related Beal, filed a Project Notification Form ("PNF") with the BPDA on July 27th for the proposed redevelopment of the approximately 6.46 acre parcel known as 244 - 284 A Street in the Fort Point district of the South Boston Waterfront. The Proponent has proposed the construction of a new, mixed-use development totaling approximately 1 million square feet, and including three buildings: a residential building, an office building, and a laboratory/research and development building. The BPDA is hosting a virtual public meeting for the 244 - 284 A Street project on August 26th. The meeting will include a presentation followed by Q&A and comments. Please pre-register to attend this Virtual Public Meeting using the link provided above.

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

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


Virtual Public Meeting

515-519 East 2nd Street

Monday, August 31
6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

Zoom Registration Link
bit.ly/East2ndSt0831


Project Proponent:
515 East 2nd Street, LLC


Project Description:
515 East 2nd Street, LLC propose to construct a five-story, residential development totaling approximately 39,750 square feet. The proposed project will have thirty (30) condominium units which includes four (4) IDP Units, and thirty-five (35) garage parking spaces.

mail to: **John Campbell**
 Boston Planning & Development Agency
 One City Hall Square, 9th Floor
 Boston, MA 02201

phone: 617.918.4282
 email: john.campbell@boston.gov

Close of Comment Period:
9/11/2020

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


Virtual Public Meeting

472 West Broadway

Thursday, August 27
6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

Zoom Registration Link
bit.ly/472WestBroadwayAug27


Project Proponent:
East Way Development, LLC

Project Description:
East Way Development, LLC propose to construct a five-story, mixed-use development totaling approximately 21,482 square feet. The proposed project will have sixteen (16) condominium units which includes two (2) IDP Units, an approximately 1,825 square feet of commercial retail space, and eleven (11) garage parking spaces.

mail to: **John Campbell**
 Boston Planning & Development Agency
 One City Hall Square, 9th Floor
 Boston, MA 02201

phone: 617.918.4282
 email: john.campbell@boston.gov

Close of Comment Period:
9/11/2020

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

Summer Fun and Learning Abounds at St Peter Academy

For the first time since March 12th, the sounds of children filled the halls of St. Peter Academy on Monday, June 29th.

The school happily welcomed students back into its year-round early education and summer programming with extensive policies and procedures to promote the health and safety of everyone during the ongoing pandemic. Of equal importance to the school was to ensure the school's long-established hallmark feature of valuing each individual child by providing a nurturing environment filled with compassion and individualized instruction that promotes the growth of the whole child; academically, socially and emotionally, remain intact with consistency during these unprecedented times.

“Over the past seven weeks, children have enjoyed being back in school with their friends. They

have adapted quite nicely to wearing a mask and remaining within their specific cohorts with the appropriate six-foot social distancing in place. I am so proud of our students and their demonstrated resilience!” said Summer Program Director, Christian Hennessey.

Toddler Transition Room Lead Co-Teacher, Brittney Robinson remarked “The three days of training provided by the school leadership prior to reopening the school, laid the foundation for our current success of being back in school for almost two months with happy, engaged children without one incident of COVID. The school leadership set hygiene, health, cleaning frequency and safety standards that in many cases exceed state require-

ments. Teachers were also encouraged to think ‘outside of the box’ and collaborated on ways to creatively provide engaging lessons and extension activities dosed in a big way with nurture and compassion for our students. I felt safe, cared for and ready for my students upon my return to school.”

The school is preparing itself to welcome back all prekindergarten, kindergarten and elementary students on September 8th. “If there’s a silver lining to be discovered during these trying times, the St Peter Academy Community will find it” assured governing board and founding member, Maryellen Connolly. “Our intentional small class sizes always provided for authentic
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1. School Principal, Frank Galligan, welcomes and guides students back at a distanced pace as they enter the building.

2. Early Education Operations Coordinator, Ashley Crush, checks daily wellness questionnaires and temperatures before students and staff enter the school.

3. The Academy's daily “welcome station” filled with touchless thermometers, hand sanitizer, sanitizer spray for backpacks, a bubble machine and balloons await student arrival.

4. The school playground is thoroughly disinfected between each student cohort use.



5



6

5. Summer Camp Director, Christian Hennessey, and students play a fun game of Simon Says where outdoor time is encouraged at the Academy.

6: Toddler Blue Room students engage in a learning activity with the appropriate social distancing and PPE protocols in place.



7



8

7: A student is eagerly engaged in an online math lesson during summer program hours.

8: Ms. Gloria engages students in morning circle with lively conversation, instruction and songs.



9



10



11

9: Prekindergarten Teacher, Ms. Carmen, assists a kindergarten student with his school issued summer break enrichment work packet which is scheduled into the summer program day.

10: Students are provided with their own exclusive use learning materials to lessen any spread of germs.

11: Outside play is encouraged with sprinkler and playground fun.

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individualized instruction so that faculty have the ability to truly meet each child where they are on their learning journey and subsequently encourage each child to reach their full potential through challenging and differentiated instruction. It is our intentionally maintained small class sizes that will benefit our whole school community in today's

world, where minimizing contacts among people is key to deterring the spread of COVID."

Likewise, a school parent who ascribes to the school's intentionally small environment agrees. "The school has done a phenomenal job with making sure that the kids come back to a very safe and healthy environment" noted parent, Anthony Gialardi. "I'm so thankful to the teach-

ers, administration, and board for doing such a great job with virtual learning and reopening its building under very difficult circumstances this year."

St. Peter Academy in 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. Virtual tours are being conducted and can be made by contacting the development director, Maria Blasi at 617-268-0750 or by emailing M.Biasi@StPeterAcademy.com or the school at SPA@StPeterAcademy.com

I Was Just Thinking...



By Kevin Devlin

“Save us from ourselves” lamented a Facebook user in response to divisive and vehement attacks on a wom-

an’s post concerning the announcement that her Trump and America Backs the Blue signs had been stolen off her property. She wanted her signs back and if she found out who the culprit was, she’d bring them to court. Which is her right to do.

Common sense dictates that it is indeed a crime to steal property. It’s an invasion of a person’s privacy and impacts negatively on one’s sense of safety. I wouldn’t want that to happen to me or to anyone else. No one should feel that it’s okay to act in such a manner. For someone who thinks it’s okay to steal someone’s else’s signs (property) because they don’t agree with the message, I wonder how they would feel if it happened to them? How would they respond?

Those who hate Trump laughed it off, demeaning the woman as if she didn’t have cause, didn’t have the right to complain. They think

it’s okay to steal such property from another. After all, Trump is evil and anyone who puts up a Trump sign deserves what they get. And as it pertains to the America Backs the Blue sign, no worry, it deserves to get stolen and possibly burned anyway.

If people don’t like Trump or the police that’s their opinion. If people like Trump and support the police, it’s also their opinion. Both should be accepted, fairly acknowledged as a basic right. It’s called Democracy. Freedom of Expression. To say and feel as you like. To be safe in your home and on your property. To be able to have a ten-speed bike in your yard without it being stolen. Without your vehicle being broken into or stolen. To have signs or flags on your property without them being stolen. Stolen for no other reason but for the simple fact that the thief, yes, the thief, disagrees with your personal beliefs.

People will say it’s a trivial matter considering the totality of events (and unlawful deeds) occurring across the nation these days. Nevertheless, it is disconcerting because this attitude ostensibly epitomizes the attitude of many Americans who dismiss unlawful behavior and dubious moral responses as justified; and actions to be blindly accepted, without hesitation, by those who rather disagree.

Civil discourse is rare, shunned as anathema.

This is sad.

And needs to change.

Respect each other, and in turn, be respected.

Treat others fairly.

Tolerate divergent views and allow them to be aired, minus the vitriol.

Allow open mindedness to breathe and embrace reason and objectivity.

Otherwise, please be aware karma is right around the corner.

Save the Harbor continued from page 8

up in Southie and have been visiting Carson Beach and Castle Island my whole life, but I still feel like I know so little about them.”

In order to continue being the Boston Harbor Connection for the region’s youth and families, South Boston residents Hassan and Wiederer are exploring Boston Harbor’s many beautiful views in small, socially-distant groups, including Charlestown Navy Yard, Castle Island, Malibu Beach, and the Harbor Islands. While there, they film videos, write lesson plans, and create other safe virtual activities for our community partners across the city.

“This year’s staffers have exceeded expectations as enthusiastic educators and hard workers,” said Youth Program Director Kristen Barry. “Despite unusual and challenging circumstances, their dedication to share Boston Harbor with the public, this time virtually, has not wavered.”

Save the Harbor/Save the Bay’s Executive Director Chris Mancini says that even during a pandemic, the entire team of youth staff have shown true dedication to their work.

“Our summer staff of 34 has risen to the challenge and helped Save the Harbor/Save the Bay save the



summer for kids from more than 100 youth development and community organizations who can’t be with us in person this year,” he says.

To learn more about what Save the

Harbor is doing to virtually connect kids and families to Boston Harbor this summer, check out their blog at <http://blog.savetheharbor.org/> and their website at <https://www.savetheharbor.org/>.

You can see more of Hassan, Wiederer and the rest of their summer staffers on social media, where you can find them on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter @savetheharbor.

M STREET SOFTBALL – ROZA, SOUTHSIDE, SIMPSON ON TOP



By Mark Senna

Under normal conditions, the first week of August usually brings the start of the playoffs here at M Street. However, the pandemic has caused a very late start to the season so here we are just hitting our stride at the midway point. For a brief moment on Friday it was looking like we were going to lose that momentum and our season when governor Baker scaled back his reopening plan. Not to worry folks, his plan reduced the number of large gatherings from 100 to 50, which we are under on most nights at the park. Not sure about those large protests though. The organizers are going to have to keep a close count or face the idea of being shutdown. Yeah right!

Moving along, the **Pat Simpson Club** enjoyed a great week of softball by winning two hard fought games that vaulted them into first place in the Larry Lucas (“A”) division. If you don’t personally know the players from this team then I can assure you they have quite the cast of characters. Keeping it all together and calling the shots is their leader, Scott Simpson. Scott is selfless and is

often penciling other players in the lineup instead of him and he’s a great player too. That’s what being a leader is all about.

Speaking of leading, **Roza Lyons** has led the Buckey Feeney (“B”) division since the very start of the season. Coach David Franco has assembled another talented team and manages one of the most organized and well-liked teams in the league. From submitting his carefully penned lineups where every player’s full name is spelled out to having his team in matching uniforms, Franco is on the ball and very much appreciated at this address.

Southside also enjoyed a successful week, which has led them to taking over first place in the Sam Moran (“B”) division. This family oriented team is led by Nick Manning and has the longest running lineage in the league. They started in 1999 as the L Street Tavern and then became the Boston Beer Garden and eventually, Southside Tavern. Peter Drumme is the only veteran remaining as Manning has reconstructed the roster. John, Zac, and Jack round out the Manning tribe on the roster. Pitcher Jack is in his seventies and is still lacing them up and taking the ball. Amazing!

Last week’s action started with the Bravos taking down STATS 5-4 behind pitcher Jose Bonilla’s strong outing. Jose’s son Jonathan put the Bravos ahead to stay in the third inning when he cleared the bases with a double.

The middle tilt saw the Dukies take out DRC, 13-5. Pat O’Sullivan (3 hits), Brian Walsh (3 hits), and Colin McNeil (2 hits, 3 runs, 3 RBI) provided the offense for Dukies while Ernie Vega (2 hits) and Tony Hutchinson (2 hits) were the hitting stars for DRC.

Monday came to a close with a great pitcher’s duel between Simpson’s Mike Garland and the Pirates ace, Jimmy Pinkston. This one had high drama throughout but it came with minimal scoring. Mark Goodman broke a 1-1 tie in the top of the fourth with a laser beam home-run to left center that put Simpson ahead. Goose eggs were tossed the rest of the way until the very

last frame. The Pirates loaded the bases with one out in the bottom of the seventh inning. Anything other than a strikeout should tie the game. Nope! A sharp ground ball was hit to second baseman, Brian Goodman, who fielded and tossed to shortstop, Michael Lush, who then fired to Pat Dolbeare for the game ending double play, mercy!

On Tuesday, the red-hot Dorchester Brew Crew showed the league why they should be taken seriously as they flexed and pimped there way to an impressive 21-10 win over Pastoral. Bo Berluti (5 hits, 2 HR, 7 RBI), Glen Parsons (4 hits), and Derek Curley (4 hits) led the Crew while Tyler Weeks and Tim Juitt hit two home runs each for Pastoral.

In the middle contest it was the Playwright Shamrocks out-smashing the Ballers, 18-8. Sean Clarke (3 hits), Sean Higgins (3 hits, 4 RBI), and Mike Blackman (3 hits, 4 runs) were the stars for Playwright while Jimmy Butler (3 hits) led the Ballers attack.

Tuesday came to a close as VMT took on Roza Lyons with first place in the Feeney division at stake. VMT took an 8-4 lead into the top of the sixth inning when Roza’s offense erupted. Ten runs came across the plate highlighted by two blasts – a three run home run by Tom Cole and a two run home run by Jamill Moquette. Those runs would be all Roza would need as they cruised to an 18-11 victory. Forrest Kimball led VMT with three hits and three runs scored.

Wednesday began with a beauty as the Banshee and Southside battled for eight innings and still couldn’t produce a winner. Southside pulled ahead in the fifth when Taylor Spagone and Nick Manning drove home a pair of runs each, 8-4. But JJ Sabin and the Banshee answered the bell in the very next inning with Sabin going deep to tie the game, 8-8. Due to time constraints, the teams were only able to play one extra frame and nobody scored so it will go in the books as a tied game. James Katsiroubas (3 hits, 2 doubles) led the Banshee’s offense while Zach Manning (3 hits) paced Southside.

The middle tilt saw a desperate Pirates team looking to end a three game skid take on the Telegraph Hill. From the outset, it was all Pirates as they scored in every inning and made quick work of the Hill gang, 20-6. Bryan Erwin (HR, 5 RBI), Esteban Trujillo (3 hits, 4 runs), and Edwin Colon (3 hits) provided the knockout blows while Alex Cooper (HR, 3 RBI) was the lone star for Telegraph.

Wednesday’s nightcap saw the Kekambas take on Lincoln Tavern with both teams still looking to establish their identity. Scott Morrison (3 hits) put the Kekambas ahead 1-0 in the third but that would be all the scoring as pitcher Drew Atton tossed his best game of the season thus far. Taylor Ferguson put Lincoln ahead to stay in the bottom of the third with a 2-run homerun.

Thursday’s action saw the Betty’s squad dismantle the Bombers, 17-5. Chris Peris (double, two triples, 6 RBI), Alberto Vasquez (3 hits, 3 runs), Nick Slevoski (3 hits), and Nick Sours (3 hits, 3 runs) provided the punch for Betty’s.

The middle contest put the Kekambas and STATS on the field with each looking to end a skid and put one back in the win column. The Kekambas were clinging to a 3-2 lead entering the bottom of the third when the game would change with one swing of the bat. Phil Scirreta (triple, 2 HR, 6 RBI) hit a 3-run homerun as STATS rallied to plate seven runs in the inning which help lead to an 11-3 win. Pitcher Tom Kazanowski went the distance to earn his third win of the season. Will Sleeper (4 hits) was the hitting star for Kekambas.

The week closed with two great games and one upset. Up first was the Telegraph Hill taking on Lincoln Tavern. The Hill’s bats sprung to life in the first inning as they put up four runs, 4-0. They eventually would carry a 5-2 lead into the bottom of the fifth where Sean Gorman would tie the game with a bases clearing double, 5-5. The very next inning, Max Vigliotti hit a home run to put

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continued from page 13

Lincoln ahead to stay as pitcher, Chris Boyd, secured the 8-6 victory. Scott Howard and Luke Serra (3 hits each) led the hitting attack for Telegraph.

The middle game was a “made for TV” game as the Simpson Club took on the Los Bravos with first place in the Lucas division on the line. The league was broadcasting the game through FaceBook “Live” and we had over twenty viewers tuned in to see the action. The Simpson Club didn’t disappoint the raucous home crowd as they jumped out to an early 3-0 lead. In the top of the fifth, the Bravos offense came to life when Tati Baez came through with a clutch hit that tied the game and quieted the crowd. After pitcher Mike Garland tossed a scoreless sixth, Simpson’s Pat Dolbeare rewarded his club with a game winning two-run double. The tough luck-losing pitcher was, Jose Bonilla, who at one point, struck out five batters in a row!

The week came to a close with Southside taking down Betty’s, 17-5. The win moved Southside into first place in the Feeney division. Pete Drummey picked up the win while Scott Tarentino (5 hits) and Jack Hockington (3 hits, 6 RBI) were the driving force at the plate.

In closing, we had a team mistakenly leave two very expensive bats at the field after their game on Friday night. They didn’t realize the bats were missing until their next game, which was on Monday at 6pm. The coach sent me a text and asked if I had found any bats



left behind. I quickly looked at the schedule to see who played on Friday and then sent out a group text to the coaches of those teams. At this point, I’m thinking the chance of recovering the bats was very low. Within minutes I got two responses. The first, “no, but I found a glove on the bench.” The second, “what kind of bats?” I replied that they were DeMarini’s. “I have them. When are they playing next?” I answered that they are playing right now. Within minutes, the missing bats were returned and in the hands of the owners just in time for their first at bats of the game. Needless to say, the guys were extremely grateful and sent me a follow up of thanks. “This league has a lot of good people in it” it sure does my friend. It sure does!

That will wrap up another very busy week of softball at this address. M Street Softball games are played Monday through Friday starting at 6pm, 7:30, and 9pm. Have a great week everyone!

TO THE EDITOR,

I thought about the page one story on how public education will work in the upcoming 2020-2021 school year (What’s a parent to do?) and agree that getting children back to real learning is still off-track over the Covid-19 virus. Right now, all kinds of politicians are talking about all kinds of ideas on how to make this or that work. Over in Somerville, the city’s public schools will start all remote learning. Here in Boston, Mayor Walsh appears to still be hoping to do a hybrid learning strategy, two days in-classroom and two days at home remote learning.

I am sure the last thing anyone wants is to see virus outbreaks connected to classroom teaching. Everyone wants everyone to stay healthy when classes and people resume inside school buildings. There is no easy or one solution that can guarantee a risk free environment when the school year begins. However, any decision made will need to take in account for all, teachers, students, parents etc.

This last spring when public school buildings closed and everyone went to remote learning, for many the learning was less than ideal. At least last spring though, the economy was pretty much shut down as many people found themselves out of work or if lucky working from home. Many parents were able to do only so much, some better than others. However, today the economy under Phase 3 of the reopening of businesses again,

many poor and working parents and many single parent families will be faced with working to pay the bills and teaching their kids simultaneously and that is a program elected officials can’t fix.

How much learning really happened over the past 12 weeks of school before summer came along is suspect. Pupils got pushed along to their next class year less prepared for new work at a higher class level. I wonder how Somerville is going to go as school starts all remotely. Many parents could easily lose hope their kids can learn anything at all. Many school systems will keep a close eye on Somerville to see how all remote learning works out in that community.

Personally, I think the hop-scotch two days in school and two days at home could be an even worse nightmare for parents. All the stakeholders are fighting for their voices to be heard but we can’t forget, the bottom line is to give our children a good and safe learning environment. I also think if we are waiting for everything to be 100 percent risk free, that day is never coming.

I don’t envy our public officials. Are there any really good options out there that don’t add risks? Every time I turn around, we keep getting all kinds of facts thrown our way and some of them contradict each other. All I can say is Thank God I am no longer a parent with school-age children to worry about. As for what’s a parent to do? Thinking about all this stuff just wants me to go back to bed, roll over, fall asleep and then wake up to find out it was all just a bad dream.

SAL GIARRATANI
East Boston



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This week, Danny reacted to all the drama surrounding college football and COVID-19 postponements:

Now we know. Bubbles are the way to go. So perhaps college football and the NFL should take note.

The NBA and NHL have set the tone for successful sports leagues during a pandemic. Both leagues are multiple weeks into their respective re-starts, with zero positive Coronavirus tests.

Zero? That's right, zero.

It's because the NBA and NHL have committed to bubble life. The NBA is playing all their games in one bubble city in Orlando. The NHL is playing all their games in two separate bubble cities in Toronto and Edmonton. And it's working, for both leagues.

Major League Baseball has had some problems with several Coronavirus outbreaks during their re-start, forcing the league to postpone a decent number of games for multiple teams as a result. MLB is not living the same bubble life as the NBA and NHL, though, it was reported earlier this week that MLB is having preliminary discussions about creating several bubble cities for the Postseason.

All of this comes as those in college football and the NFL are preparing to begin their seasons in the fall. "Preparing" might be a strong word, with regards to college football,

which has now seen multiple conferences and non-conference teams "postpone" their 2020 fall seasons.

Most recently, both the Big Ten and Pac-12 have postponed their entire fall sports season. That means, no college football this year for Big Ten and Pac-12 schools.

"The mental and physical health and welfare of our student-athletes has been at the center of every decision we have made regarding the ability to proceed forward," said Big Ten Commissioner Kevin Warren in a statement on Tuesday. "As time progressed and after hours of discussion with our Big Ten Task Force for Emerging Infectious Diseases and the Big Ten Sports Medicine Committee, it became abundantly clear that there was too much uncertainty regarding potential medical risks to allow our student-athletes to compete this fall.

"We know how significant the student-athlete experience can be in shaping the future of the talented young women and men who compete in the Big Ten Conference," added Warren. "Although that knowledge made this a painstaking decision, it did not make it difficult. While I know our decision today will be disappointing in many ways for our thousands of student-athletes and their

families, I am heartened and inspired by their resilience, their insightful and discerning thoughts, and their participation through our conversations to this point. Everyone associated with the Big Ten Conference and its member institutions is committed to getting everyone back to competition as soon as it is safe to do so."

Both the Big Ten and Pac-12 are teasing the idea that their fall sports could return to play in the spring.

"The health, safety and well-being of our student-athletes and all those connected to Pac-12 sports has been our number one priority since the start of this current crisis," said Pac-12 Commissioner Larry Scott in a statement. "Our student-athletes, fans, staff and all those who love college sports would like to have seen the season played this calendar year as originally planned, and we know how disappointing this is.

"Unlike professional sports, college sports cannot operate in a bubble," added Scott. "Our athletic programs are a part of broader campuses in communities where in many cases the prevalence of COVID-19 is significant. We will continue to monitor the situation and when conditions change we will be ready to explore all options to play the impacted

sports in the new calendar year."

He's right. It's probably unrealistic to put college sports in a "bubble." So, if we're functioning under the premise that bubbles are the way to go, then perhaps we shouldn't waste much energy arguing over the college football season. But we should absolutely be using this bubble logic when it comes to the 2020 NFL season.

Right now, the NFL seems hesitant — publicly at least — to even consider playing in a bubble. Obviously they wouldn't be able to do it like the NBA is. But they could follow the NHL's lead and play the upcoming NFL season in multiple hub cities. Maybe it's not two cities, but instead, four cities. Anything would be better than making every NFL team hop on a plane and travel eight different times during the regular season, given the circumstances.

But will they do it? It's probably smart to at least try. Which means that Roger Goodell probably has already ruled it out for good.

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MLB CONSIDERS POSTSEASON 'BUBBLE'

SBT Staff

According to multiple reports, Major League Baseball has had discussions about creating several hub “bubble” locations for the Postseason in October.

This comes after the St. Louis Cardinals’ season was temporarily shut down on July 31 because of positive Coronavirus tests in the organization. The Cardinals have only played five games so far this season, and when they’re scheduled to return this weekend, they’ll have had a total of 17 games postponed.

Positive tests in the Miami Marlins’ organization also forced major postponements around the league, with the Marlins themselves having a total of

Tweet of the Week



Mike Pence @Mike_Pence · 15h

Mike Pence @Mike_Pence · 15h

America needs College Football! It's important for student-athletes, schools, and our Nation. These Great athletes have worked their whole lives for the opportunity compete on the college gridiron and they deserve the chance to safely get back on the field! #WeWantToPlay

eight games postponed.

The last thing Major League Baseball wants to do is to have to postpone post-season games, which is why the league is now discussing moving the postseason into a bubble. However, the details of this “bubble” are still being worked out.

MLB has undoubtedly been keeping an eye on the success of the NBA and NHL in their respective bubbles, as both leagues continue to see zero positive tests. The NBA is playing in one hub “bubble” city

in Orlando, while the NHL is playing in two separate “bubble” cities in Toronto and Edmonton.

With the MLB Postseason expanding to 16 teams this October, it’s unrealistic that they’d be able to hold the entire postseason in one single hub city. Sources tell ESPN that three areas are currently being considered because of the number of available MLB ball-parks: Southern California, Chicago, and New York.

WHAT TO WATCH

NHL THURSDAY, AUG. 13
Eastern Conference Quarterfinals
Gm 2: Carolina vs Boston
8 P.M. NBCSN

SATURDAY, AUG. 15
Eastern Conference Quarterfinals
Gm 3: Boston vs Carolina
12 P.M. NESN

NBA THURSDAY, AUG. 13
Washington vs Boston
12 P.M. NBCSB

MLB SATURDAY, AUG. 15
Boston at NY Yankees
7:15 P.M. FOX

SUNDAY, AUG. 16
Boston at NY Yankees
7 P.M. ESPN

BRUINS TO FACE HURRICANES IN FIRST ROUND OF PLAYOFFS

SBT Staff

The Boston Bruins began the 2020 Stanley Cup Playoffs, this week, with a first-round series against the No. 5 seed Carolina Hurricanes. The Bruins ended up being the No. 4 seed in the Eastern Conference after losing all three of their qualifier seeding games last week, to the Philadelphia Flyers, Tampa Bay Lightning, and Washington Capitals.

Boston looks to make another run at the Stanley Cup after losing in Game 7 of the Stanley Cup Final last summer at home to the St. Louis Blues. The Blues are the No. 4 seed in the Western Conference this time around, and will face the No. 5 seed Vancouver Canucks in the Western Conference Quarterfinals.

The winner of the Bruins/Hurricanes series will take on the winner of the series between the No. 3 Washington Capitals and No. 6 New York Islanders.

UMASS FOOTBALL CANCELS 2020 SEASON, REST OF COLLEGE FOOTBALL IN DOUBT

SBT Staff

As the football world tries to figure out how to move forward with the game this fall, amidst the Coronavirus pandemic, the University of Massachusetts has decided to take matters into its own hands.

UMass Athletics announced Tuesday that it has canceled its 2020 college football season.

“After consulting with university, state and public health officials, we have made the difficult decision to cancel the 2020 UMass football season,” said UMass athletic director Ryan Bamford in a statement. “We have been in constant communication with university leadership and

our football staff since March, with the health and safety of our student-athletes, coaches and staff remaining our top priority. The continuing challenges surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic posed too great of a risk, and we reached the conclusion that attempting to play a season would not have placed the members of our program in the safest situation possible.

“These times have presented us with extensive uncertainty, and we are disappointed for all the members of our fall sports programs who will not have the opportunity to compete this autumn. We remain hopeful and fully intend to conduct a competitive schedule for our fall sports in the 2021 spring semester.”

UMass football coach Walt Bell also re-

leased a statement on social media this week.

“The players always come first,” said Bell. “No one shows up to watch us coach, they show up to watch them play. With that being said, we are absolutely heartbroken for our players, our former players, our alumni, and our UMass Football community.”

This decision comes as college football conferences weigh their options for the upcoming season. UMass is an FBS independent.

Meanwhile, some of the top players in the country — including Clemson star quarterback and possible No. 1 overall pick in the 2021 NFL Draft, Trevor Lawrence — have started a trending hashtag on social media that expresses their desire to play through the pandemic this fall.

The hashtag reads, “#WeWantToPlay.”



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