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*Ordinance builds on the Walsh Administration's dedication to enacting swift reforms on policing, through recommendations by the Boston Police Reform Task Force*

In maintaining his commitment to making Boston a national leader on police reform and creating long-lasting, systemic change, Mayor Martin J. Walsh joined members of the Boston Police Reform Task Force, Chairman Wayne Budd, and Boston Police Commissioner William Gross to sign the ordinance

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# EDITORIAL

## They are Not our Masters, We are Not their Subjects

You can hear the grumbling everywhere now and the volume gets louder by the day. The ‘do as I say/not as I do’ attitude of some elected officials is starting to remind many of history lessons back in grade school. Each week, there seems to be a new order/edict/command or rule that we are told must be obeyed or there will be consequences. And the words ‘taxation without representation’ made famous during our nation’s War for Independence’ back in the 1700’s are ringing true once

again in the 21st Century.

The number of people, who are refusing to comply with what we are endlessly being told is for our own good, might not be growing so quickly if those issuing, in rapid succession, were not so often seen ignoring the same. Recently, a press conference with briefing was held, where Massachusetts residents were ordered to continue to wear their masks, social distance and not gather in groups of more than 10. That this briefing was given by 12 mask-less people, standing

nearly shoulder to shoulder, did not go unnoticed by the viewing public. Mayors, governors and other officials, mainly in Blue States, ban social events and parties, indoor dining and visits to gyms for the public but are constantly being caught on film taking part in the very activities they tell the public that will get them fined or even arrested. Darn those camera phones.

Then there are the tax increases that are on their way, with new ones to be added. One blatant example is Governor Baker arrogantly

pandering to environmentalist radicals and making Massachusetts one of only a handful of states willing to sign on to the controversial ‘Carbon Tax Initiative’. This is being criticized by already hurting businesses as an economy killer. It will be boosting the cost of a gallon of gas by nine cents – to start, and the 2.4 billion dollars that this state will be shelling out is, of course, coming from the taxpayers. One can only imagine all the other tax hikes needed to pay for it. Raising taxes during a pandemic, when

so many people are hurting financially, is the epitome of tone deafness and arrogance.

What’s happening is that far too many of our elected representatives have forgotten that THEY work for US. It’s not the other way around. They are not our masters and we are not their subjects. And let’s not lose sight of the fact that every one of those, who are restricting small businesses and causing so many people to go jobless and struggle to even keep their families fed and a roof over their heads, have not missed even one paycheck.

*“And now we welcome the New Year. Full of things that have never been” - Rainer Maria Rilke*

## Obituary

Anthony (“Sonny”) J. Matanes (81), Franklin, MA formerly of Braintree and South Boston, passed away peacefully at home, Sunday, January 3, 2021 following an illness. Born on May 21, 1939, Anthony was the beloved husband of Gail J. (Uthhoff), with whom he shared 43 years of marriage. He was the son of the late Anthony J. and Antoinette L. (Tomkotonis) of Marine Road, South Boston.

Anthony grew up in South Boston where he attended South Boston High School and was Co-Captain of the South Boston High Hockey Team as well as being a member of the football team and participated in

the sailing program as a junior member of the South Boston Yacht Club. He was also a graduate of Northeastern University where he received his associate degree in engineering. He was affectionally known as “Sonny” by his sister Carolyn and family, as well as throughout his childhood. Later on, he was known as “Tony.”

Prior to his retirement from the former Boston Edison Electric Company he was a construction engineer overseeing many projects including the “Big Dig” and the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station in Plymouth. He was also an avid sailor and had a passion for boating. He and his wife (Gail) owned the sailboat “Gail Wind” which was often seen at Marina Bay in Quincy.

He is survived by his son David A.

Matanes of Atlanta, GA; and stepchildren Susan L. Jacobson and her husband Jim of Franklin, Laura J. Husak and her husband Joseph of Franklin; a sister Carolyn A. Wong and her husband John of Braintree; cousins John Matanes and Mark Matanes both of Canton, Florence Breen of Quincy, MA and Helen Gomes of Peabody, MA as well as many grandchildren, a great-granddaughter, nieces and nephews.

Due to COVID-19 and the family’s concern for others, a private graveside service will take place.

Donations in his memory may be sent to the Salmon VNA & Hospice, 37 Birch St., Milford, MA 01757.

The Charles F. Oteri and Son Franklin Funeral Home, 33 Cottage Street is honored to assist the Matanes Family.



SouthBostonTODAY Publisher • John Ciccone info@southbostontoday.com • ads@southbostontoday.com PO Box 491 • South Boston, MA 02127

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# The Information Center

## *You Thought They Couldn't Get Any crazier... And A Note On Public Safety*

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY

John Ciccone

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

Now that 2020 is over and done with, many people were breathing a sigh of relief. The common belief was that the past year was crazy and now things can get back to normal and insanity can take a break. Well, here's hoping that 2021 will be better, but anyone who thought that we are finished with craziness learned quickly that, nope, the lunacy will continue.

Not willing to let 2021 get even a week old, the democrat-controlled US House of Representatives charged out of the starting gate with a rules change proposal that would mandate 'gender neutral language and ban traditional words like Mother, Father, Son, Daughter etc. I realize that most people have already heard about this. Something this absurd gets notoriety quickly. And it came as no surprise that reelected Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi is pushing this and, sadly, it also comes as no surprise that the co-sponsor of this ridiculous legislation would be a congressman from Massachusetts. His name is James McGovern.

This state has long been considered a breeding ground for nut cases by much of the rest of America, when it comes to politics. But in recent years, California has taken the lead, when it comes to kooky policies and strange politics. Congressman McGovern, it seems, doesn't want the Bay State to lose the title. I have a personal request for sane Americans: Please stop saying the Democrats couldn't possibly get any crazier, because they seem to be taking that as a challenge and continue to prove us all wrong, almost daily.

Think about it. With all the big issues facing our country, Pelosi, McGovern and like thinkers choose to spend time and start off the new congressional session by banning the words Mother and Father. To

them, this is a priority? But it really shouldn't surprise anyone. Look at what Congress considers other priorities. For hurting Americans, they felt a \$600 check of our own tax dollars was plenty. But for Pakistan to study gender issues, \$25 million was not a problem. Nor were the many MANY billions of our tax dollars they want to go to all the other foreign countries. Do they not understand or even care that Americans don't get up each morning and go to work (those who still have jobs) to see their tax dollars sent to support Sudan, Nicaragua or El Salvador? And we really don't want to send over a billion dollars to the Egyptian military, especially when our own armed forces could use a well earned and much deserved pay raise and some new equipment. Liberals have often criticized President Trump, because he has refused to back off his policy of 'America First'. They hate him for it. But it's pretty obvious that as far as many liberals and their allies in congress are concerned, the motto should be 'America Last - if at all'.

Thankfully, there is hope. More Americans than ever are waking up to the direction the country is being taken by the so called 'Progressives' and 'Elites' and they don't like it. This was reflected in the many new Conservative members of Congress, as well as state houses all across the nation, that were elected in November. Pelosi's crew is hanging on by a thread with a razor thin majority. Few political analysts on either side doubt that her bunch will lose the majority in 2022 and by a huge margin. When that happens, God will have blessed America once again.

**I'll close this week with a note on Public Safety:**

Though general crime is down across Boston over the last year, Homicides are up 54% and shoot-

ings with illegal guns are up by 45%. Now with the news of even more drug convictions possibly being thrown out in the wake of the state's drug lab scandals, allegedly perpetrated by chemists who are currently under investigation, you would think the state legislators would be cautious about vacating state correctional facilities any further. But in the year of Covid-19 you'd be wrong.

Progressive legislators moved to force Governor Baker and his Commissioner of the Department of Corrections, in the just passed FY-21 Budget, to release transitioned to home

confinement or furloughed individuals in the care and custody of the department, who can be safely released, with prioritization given to populations most vulnerable to serious medical outcomes associated with Covid-19, according to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention's guidelines.

Aren't these the same folks getting priorities for the vaccine?

Baker was right to veto this attempt to force his hand by legislators. Kudos go to our Senator Nick Collins for having the courage and common sense to stand up and vote to support Baker's veto in the name of Public Safety.

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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.

### **GOP Civil War alert: Baker blasts fellow Republicans for trying to block Biden certification**

Gov. Charlie Baker, a moderate Republican, yesterday denounced the attempts by some GOP senators to block the electoral-college certification of Joe Biden as the next president, saying Biden won the November election “fair and square” and efforts to undermine election results are an “affront to democracy.” SHNS’s Chris Lisinski (pay wall) and MassLive’s Benjamin Kail have more. Baker’s comments echo the criticisms of other moderate Republicans, such as former Mass. Gov. and U.S. Sen. Mitt Romney, and the brouhaha is clearly forcing party members to choose sides. From the WSJ (pay wall): “In Trump’s Final Days, Lines Are Drawn for a Republican Civil War.” From the the Washington Post: “Trump sabotaging GOP on his way out of office with push to overturn election.” Don’t forget: The Massachusetts Republican Party already has its very own mini-civil war under way. See Jon Keller’s MassterList podcast above.

### **So who are the winners and losers in climate roadmap bill sent to Baker?**

A day after its unveiling, a compromise climate-change bill won quick passage yesterday on Beacon Hill, with lawmakers sending the ambitious carbon-reductions package to Gov. Charlie Baker, as SHNS’s Colin Young reports (pay wall).

So who are the winners and losers in the bill? The Globe’s Jon Chesto reports offshore wind developers are huge winners, while local developers are among the losers. MassLive’s Jim Kinney reports that wood-to-energy plants also appear to be big losers. Commonwealth’s Shira Schoenberg writes the legislation includes a compromise between local assessors and solar developers on the thorny issue of property taxes.

### **Deadline rush: Do lawmakers have time to pass transportation and economic-development bills?**

It’s going to be hectic day at the State House, as lawmakers strive to finish legislative business before

this evening’s end-of-the-session deadline. State House New Service has a good summary (pay wall) of the major issues still on the legislative table. But the Globe’s Matt Stout and Commonwealth’s Bruce Mohl report the odds don’t look good for passage of the large transportation-spending and economic-development bills.

### **State gives people 75 or older higher vaccine priority**

Switching to pandemic news, from a three-reporter team at NBC Boston: “People age 75 or older have been moved higher up in the order of Massachusetts’ coronavirus vaccination plan, officials said Monday, as they released details on when the next group to get the vaccines, first responders, will be able to get them.” Re first responders, their vaccinations start Jan. 11, reports SHNS’s Chris Lisinski (pay wall). The Globe’s Robert Weisman reports that the state is setting up regional vaccination centers for first responders.


### **Massachusetts’ slow vaccination roll-out: You can’t blame this one on Trump**

Speaking of vaccine rollouts, WBUR’s Martha Bebinger reports that only 40 percent of the vaccine doses delivered to Massachusetts have so far been injected into people. Part of the reason for the statistical lag may have to do with how and when the state receives field reports on actual injections.

Commonwealth’s Sarah Be-tancourt writes that Marylou Sudders, the secretary of health and human services, is “comfortable” with the reporting lag. Meanwhile, the Globe’s Anissa Gardizy has a good “five things you need to know” piece about the vaccine rollout in general in Massachusetts.

### **Out of room: Cape Cod homeless shelters, services struggle to meet heightened demand**

For the first time ever, the largest homeless shelter on the Cape has a waiting list for beds and agencies across the Cape and Islands say they are struggling to meet increased demand for services as the coronavirus pandemic both drives demand and complicates service delivery. Denise Coffey at the Cape Cod Times has the details.



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# Commonwealth Care Alliance® Issues \$50,000 to South Boston Community Health Center

The organization will provide funds to support an initiative that tackles gaps in care and facilitates immunization outreach amid COVID-19. Commonwealth Care Alliance® (CCA) has extended a \$50,000 award to South Boston Community Health Center, a Massachusetts Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC), to help fund essential programming for our members with significant needs. The programming will improve access to preventive care, flu vaccination, and COVID-19 vaccination during this unprecedented time of crisis. CCA, a not-for-profit community-based healthcare organization that provides and coordinates care for individuals with complex medical, behavioral health and social needs, including those with disabilities, launched the Quality Initiative Program as part of their ongoing effort to improve health outcomes for the most at-risk Massachusetts residents amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

Nearly a quarter of CCA's 38,000+ members receive primary or specialized care at FQHCs in communities across Massachusetts, including 33 percent of members in CCA's Senior Care Options plan, which serves individuals dually eligible for Medicare and Medicaid aged 65 and older. South Boston Community Health Center is a long-standing partner of CCA.

"We are thrilled to provide South Boston Community Health Center with funds that will be used to provide critical support and help achieve our overall goal of addressing inequalities in care for elderly patients and those who have chronic and pre-existing health conditions," said Umar Farooq, General Manager of Massachusetts at CCA. "The COVID-19 pandemic has revealed numerous gaps in care, and this program facilitates strategies aimed at addressing and improving our healthcare system in the Commonwealth while focusing on individuals who are the most at-risk."

"One of the many challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic is that patients with chronic conditions are less likely to keep up with routine maintenance visits, putting them at risk for worsening conditions. Similarly, patients who are due for screenings and immunizations may forego accessing services because they feel that visiting the health center puts them at greater risk for COVID-19," said William J. Halpin, Jr., CEO of South Boston Community Health Center. "We have been actively trying to reach out to patients to keep up with visits, testing, screenings and immunizations while structuring our operations to deliver these services as safely as possible. This is especially important as the pandemic will likely continue well into 2021 and for some individuals, the difference of delaying a cancer screening, for example, could be extremely detrimental. CCA's generous funding is helping to support our efforts as we identify and outreach to patients



at risk and maintain high quality care and the strictest safety protocols whilst patients access these services."

The Quality Initiative Program will fund up to \$1.05 million to FQHCs across the state. CCA will partner closely with South Boston Community Health Center to ensure they have the support needed to implement their program effectively and improve health outcomes for the members they serve.

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# I Was Just Thinking...



by Kevin Devlin

I recently bumped into an old Dot acquaintance—a nice guy—while shopping at Star Market in Quincy. I used to referee his hoop games back in the day. We spoke briefly and he was relieved that President Donald Trump would be leaving office soon. When I mentioned that president-elect Joe Biden was several steps away from not knowing who he was, he was slightly taken aback and simply replied, “Doesn’t matter. Anything is better than that guy.” That was his reply. And that’s it in a nutshell. Anything is better than that guy. That’s what it has come down to; and it’s pretty sad.

When I subsequently said that Biden will probably be out of office by July anyway due to his inability to govern, he didn’t want to listen to what I had to say. I sensed he was sort of in denial, not wanting to acknowledge any possible, and soon-to-be deployed Democrat

scheme (in my estimation) to put Biden out to pasture while gift wrapping the presidency to Kamala Harris. But it really doesn’t matter anyway, does it, since anybody is better than that guy anyway.

On another note, if you like old-fashioned detective movies with a touch of humor intermittently mixed with a few martinis, you’ll love the popular Thin Man movie series recently featured on TCM. The six movies in the series are, *The Thin Man* (1934), *After the Thin Man* (1936), *Another Thin Man* (1939), *Shadow of the Thin Man* (1941), *The Thin Man Goes Home* (1944), and *Song of the Thin Man* (1947).

Detectives Nick and Nora Charles (played by William Powell and Myrna Loy), along with help from their little wire-haired fox terrier named Asta, have fun playing detective in-between socializing with family and friends. The plots all follow the same basic formula as the first movie—it’s always the person you least suspect—and are enjoyable to watch.

Nick and Nora are in some glamorous location when they somehow find themselves mixed-up in a murder investigation. While Nora conjures up her own theories on who the culprit is, only Nick can solve the mystery, as he gathers the suspects together in the same room and un-masks the killer. Powell is charming as Nick, and Loy, as his wife Nora, adds a touch of class and beauty. They have that connection seldom seen in today’s movies. And we can’t forget their lovable dog, Asta, who sniffs out clues, and does backflips, as well as various other tricks.

# Additional Ounce, Priority Mail and Postcard Stamps Available Jan. 24



The U.S. Postal Service will release three new stamps as part of 2021 price change:

Barns, a 36-cent postcard stamp; Brush Rabbit, a 20-cent additional ounce stamp; and Castillo de San Marcos, a \$7.95 Priority Mail stamp. The stamps will be available beginning Sunday, Jan. 24. There will be no national first-day-of-issue ceremony for these stamps.

## Barns

The U.S. Postal Service has four new postcard stamps that celebrate the beauty and history of American barns. The artist created digital paintings of four types of iconic barns found in the rural American landscape. With differing qualities of light and color, each piece reflects one of the four seasons: a round barn surrounded by the hazy light and warm colors of fall; a gambrel-roofed barn in summer; a forebay barn in early spring; and a Western barn on a winter’s night. Ashley Walton designed the stamps with original artwork by Kim Johnson. Greg Breeding was the art director.

Along the bottom of each stamp is the word “postcard,” to indicate their usage. These stamps will always be valid for the rate printed on them.

## Brush Rabbits

The U.S. Postal Service features a brush rabbit (*Sylvilagus bachmani*) on this additional ounce stamp, available in a pane of 20 or a coil of 100. The brush rabbit is a small brownish cottontail rabbit of the U.S. West Coast and Baja California, Mexico. It lives mostly west of the Sierra Nevada range and south of the Columbia River, which defines the coastal Oregon-Washington border. The adult is about a foot long and generally weighs between 1 and 2 pounds.

The pencil-and-watercolor illus-

tration is from preexisting artwork by designer and illustrator Dugald Stermer (1936-2011). Art director Ethel Kessler designed the stamp.

The words “additional ounce” on this stamp indicate its usage value. This stamp will always be valid for the rate printed on it.

## Castillo de San Marcos

The latest Priority Mail stamp, which bears the new price, celebrates the oldest masonry fortification in the United States, the Castillo de San Marcos in St. Augustine, FL.

The stamp art features a digital illustration of the fortress based on a contemporary photograph. With a view toward the northeast corner of the fortress, the artwork captures it in the golden glow of sunrise over Matanzas Bay. Art director Greg Breeding designed the stamp with art created by Chicago-based graphic illustrator Dan Cosgrove.

This stamp provides a convenient way for customers to pay for Priority Mail Flat Rate shipping with a single stamp. Priority Mail is the Postal Service’s bestselling mail service. Domestic deliveries arrive in 1-3 business days depending on where a package starts and where it’s going. Tracking and insurance are included, and shipping boxes and envelopes are free.

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Information for ordering first-day-of-issue postmarks and covers is at [usps.com/shop](https://usps.com/shop). The Postal Service receives no tax dollars for operating expenses and relies on the sale of postage, products and services to fund its operations.

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# BPDA Releases Draft Zoning Overlay For Future Climate Risks



Fulfilling steps outlined in Mayor Martin J. Walsh's Climate Ready Boston, the Boston Planning & Development Agency (BPDA) has released a draft zoning overlay that will require new development and retrofits to take additional steps to limit the damage and displacement related to the impacts of coastal storms and sea level rise. The zoning overlay will promote resilient planning and design, provide consistent standards for the review of projects, and maximize the benefits of investments in coastal resilience.

"In order for Boston to grow and thrive for generations to come, we must make sure that what we are building today is resilient and protected from impacts of climate change," said BPDA Director Brian Golden. "By updating our zoning code, we are strengthening our tools to protect our city and our shoreline, and following through on the steps outlined in May-

or Walsh's Climate Ready Boston."

The Coastal Flood Resilience Zoning Overlay District will apply to areas of the City that could be inundated during a major coastal storm event, known as a 1 percent chance flood event, with 40-inches of sea level rise. Based upon climate modeling, 40-inches of sea level rise is expected between 2070 and 2100, which is within the usable life of most buildings currently undergoing BPDA review. The 40-inch inundation area is integrated into the BPDA Zoning Viewer.

All development projects subject to BPDA's Article 80 Large and Small Project review will be required to undergo Resilience Review, and comply with the Coastal Flood Resilience Design Guidelines. In 2019, the BPDA adopted Coastal Flood Resilience Design Guidelines to provide clear strategies and best practices for developers, business owners, and residents to respond to climate change. Earlier this year, the American Planning Association (APA) Sustainable Communities Division awarded the BPDA's Coastal Flood Resilience Design Guidelines with the 2020 APA Excellence in Sustainability Award in the Policy, Law or Tool category.

The Zoning Overlay (Article 25A of the Boston Zoning Code) will provide new definitions and standards for building dimensions and uses to facilitate flood resilient design for new projects and building retrofits. Intended to prevent flood damage by elevating building occupiable space, flood proofing areas beneath flood elevations, and

promoting health and safety by preventing uses such as living space below the flood elevation, the specific provisions of the overlay include:

- **Building Height:** Projects undergoing Resilience Review will have their height measured from two feet above the Sea Level Rise Base Flood Elevation (SLR-BFE), rather than at grade, which is what current zoning requires.

- **Building Setbacks:** Projects will have allowances to extend into side yard, rear yard, and front yard setbacks for structures needed for vertical circulation, such as stairs or ramps to get from surrounding grade to a higher first floor elevation. There are also allowances for side yard and rear yard encroachments for new structures to house mechanical systems to ensure they are not located in basements or beneath the Sea Level Rise Design Flood Elevation (SLR-DFE), which consists of the SLR-BFE plus one to two feet based on type of use.

- **Lot Coverage and Required Open Space:** The structures needed for vertical circulation and mechanical systems referenced above will be excluded from measurement of lot coverage and open space

- **Gross Square Floor Area:** Will exclude structures needed for vertical circulation and areas devoted to flood protection measures.

- **Limitations on Use Below the Sea Level Rise Design Flood Elevation:** For health and safety purposes, uses beneath the SLR DFE are limited to access or vertical circulation structures; flood prevention measures, storage, and parking accessory to non-residential uses.

The BPDA will host virtual public meetings on January 13 and January 15 to discuss and answer questions on the Zoning Overlay District. The public will have until February 12, 2021 to submit feedback.

The BPDA has also launched the Zero Net Carbon Building Zoning Initiative to assess and identify strategies to strengthen green building zoning requirements to a zero net carbon standard for new construction, to meet Mayor Walsh's goal for Boston to be carbon neutral by 2050.

Mayor Walsh's 2016 Climate Ready Boston report assessed Boston's climate projections and vulnerabilities to climate change, and identified city-wide strategies for reducing vulnerability to sea-level rise, extreme heat, and intense precipitation. The Climate Ready Boston program that followed the report is led by the City of Boston's Environment Department and the BPDA, in collaboration with many City and community partners and the residents of Boston. The city is also continuing with Coastal Resilience Solutions reports to address eight vulnerable neighborhoods identified in the 2016 report, and follow studies for East Boston, Charlestown, South Boston, and the Moakley Park Vision Plan to incorporate climate resiliency design to address the threat of coastal flooding and storm surge. Resilient solutions identified through Climate Ready Boston are part of and strengthen the strategies outlined in Resilient Boston Harbor to increase access and open space throughout Boston's 47-mile shoreline while better protecting the City.

## Younger Workers Can Mentor Older Ones And Move Companies Forward

Mentoring usually refers to a manager, executive, or experienced employee guiding a younger person in the workplace, helping them acquire knowledge and new skills that foster professional growth.

But with the expanding role of technology in today's rapidly evolving business climate, a role reversal sometimes takes place – reverse mentorship. That is, older employees are paired with younger ones who teach them about technology –

a strong suit for millennials and Gen Z workers, generations who grew up with technology.

Reverse mentoring can be a plus for businesses in bridging generation gaps and knowledge gaps, and also a lifeline for older workers who otherwise might get phased out, says Rod Robertson, Managing Partner of Briggs Capital ([www.briggscapital.com](http://www.briggscapital.com)), international entrepreneur, and author of *Winning at Entrepreneurship: Insider's Tips on Buying, Building, and Sell-*

*ing Your Own Business.*

"The older people better pay attention to these young people and find a mentor so they can teach them about technology," Robertson says. "Recent studies have shown that the COVID-19 pandemic has greatly accelerated the shift to e-commerce and e-learning.

"The people who don't climb aboard the tech train will be left behind in the post-pandemic shake-out. A lack of tech knowledge is an excuse for organizations to cut the

more expensive, older people and bring in the younger talent. These young tech execs should latch onto a floundering management exec and lead them to the new world order before they become obsolete. In return, the young people get access to years of wisdom, and companies can become more cohesive and efficient in the whole reverse mentorship process."

Robertson offers these tips on how to implement reverse mentor-  
**continued on page 11**

# The Wine Guy

## Best Bets For Bubbles



Many will undoubtedly say that the end of 2020 couldn't have come fast enough. Having said that, I'd like to suggest the following for your toasting and tasting pleasure no matter what the occasion, especially in January as we all state or re-state our New Year resolution(s).

**Decoy Brut Cuvee, NV, Napa, California, (\$21.99).** Decoy Brut Cuvée is an enticing sparkling wine that offers distinctive layers of baked apple, white peach and orange zest, as well as aromatic hints of honeysuckle and vanilla. On the palate, a subtle sweetness is perfectly balanced by bright acidity, which adds structure to the lush, pure fruit flavors. Crafted in the méthode champenoise tradition and aged with French oak barrel-fermentation, this Napa Valley Sparkling Chardonnay will bring out the best in shellfish, aged cheese and special hors d'oeuvres, like Wrapped Filet puffs with Glazed Bearnaise sauce.

**Gratien & Meyer Crémant de Loire Brut Rosé, (\$19.99),** is a great example of the quality and versatility of one of France's most underrated grapes, Chenin Blanc. Notes of peaches, vanilla and caramel merge nicely with a sturdy effervescence

to provide a long finish and a very pleasant mouthfeel. The wine's pink tinge comes from the addition of about 15% Pinot Noir, also grown throughout the Loire Valley, though not as strong as those in Burgundy. Try this one with Crab Rangoon, Smoked Snails or BBQ Chicken and Pasta with melted Parmesan cheese.

**Anna De Cordoniu Brut, Segura, Spain, NV, (\$14.99).** Purity, liveliness and balance define this cava, and the combination of Chardonnay with the three classic grapes, Parellada, Xarello and Macabeo, stand out as a sparkling and very fresh cava from the fruity and floral aromas of its aging. This one is perfect as a dinner aperitif or just for toasting. Maybe some Beef Wellington or Duck à l'Orange?

**Domaine Ste. Michelle Extra Dry NV, Columbia Valley, Washington, (\$13.99).** The Domaine Ste. Michelle Extra Dry is a slightly sweeter style of sparkling wine. With delicate

aromas of orange and lemon zest, this elegant wine reveals flavors of apples and pears with a persistent column of bubbles. This one really brings out the best in shellfish, so why not try it with some Nantucket scallops in a Coquilles St. Jacques style?

Lastly, we shouldn't forget a nice Prosecco. **La Vostra Prosecco, Veneto, Italy, (\$21.99).** Immerse yourself in the juicy, irresistible flavors of apple, white peach and fragrant honeysuckle with La Vostra Prosecco. This inviting, bubbly sipper appeals to even the most selective sparkling enthusiast; it's one of those wines that you can have on special occasions and casual gatherings as well. Try it anytime and I guarantee you'll be having it again and again throughout the coming year. Not only is it great sipping, it come in the dysfunctional family size!

*Talk to The Wine Guy at [jdris8888@gmail.com](mailto:jdris8888@gmail.com)*

## Mayor Walsh announces reopening of Orton Field in South Boston

Mayor Martin J. Walsh and Boston Parks Commissioner Ryan Woods announced the Boston Parks and Recreation Department has completed improvements to Orton Field located at 200 D Street in South Boston. The fencing, synthetic turf, and entrances were all upgraded with a \$570,000 project budget funded by Mayor Walsh's Capital Improvement

Plan, one in a series of parks recently reopened within current health guidelines in Dorchester, Hyde Park, Mattapan, and South Boston.

"The COVID-19 pandemic has reminded us of the importance of parks and open spaces for individuals to exercise, relax or take a break. As we've responded to the impacts of COVID-19, we've remained committed to also continuing to support our

communities, beyond health," said Mayor Walsh. "I'm proud of these renovations and improving recreation spaces for Bostonians to safely enjoy."

Since 2014, the Walsh administration has invested more than \$114 million across the city's parks systems, representing some of the most significant parks investments in Boston's history. The Fiscal Year 2021-2025 (FY21-FY25) Capital Plan includes enhanced

support to maintain the City's Urban Wilds and tree canopy, increases in funding to plant and maintain trees across the city, as well as \$36.8 million for new and ongoing open space projects in Fiscal Year 2021.

For current social distancing guidelines in City of Boston parks please visit [www.boston.gov/news/coronavirus-covid-19-updates-boston-parks-and-recreation](http://www.boston.gov/news/coronavirus-covid-19-updates-boston-parks-and-recreation) or [boston.gov/coronavirus](http://boston.gov/coronavirus).



South Boston's Orton Field recently reopened after \$570,000 in improvements funded by Mayor Martin J. Walsh's Capital Improvement Plan.



The Boston Parks and Recreation recently completed several field and playground renovation projects citywide including Orton Field at 200 D Street in South Boston. The fencing, synthetic turf, and entrances were all upgraded under Mayor Walsh's Capital Improvement Plan.



# BOSTON YOUTH LACROSSE

## GIRLS INFORMATION & FEES

- PRACTICE LOCATION - SAUNDERS
- 1ST-2ND GRADE - \$80 TO BOSTON YOUTH LACROSSE
- 3RD-8TH GRADE - \$130 TO BOSTON YOUTH LACROSSE

\*\*LEAGUE FEE OF \$30 IS INCLUDED DIRECTLY IN PRICE\*\*

## BOYS INFORMATION & FEES

- PRACTICE LOCATION - GARVEY PARK & SAUNDERS
- 1ST-2ND GRADE - \$50 TO BOSTON YOUTH LACROSSE
- 3RD-8TH GRADE - \$100 TO BOSTON YOUTH LACROSSE
- HIGH SCHOOL - \$175 TO BOSTON YOUTH LACROSSE

\*\*LEAGUE FEE OF \$30 PAID FIRST TO MASS BAY YOUTH LACROSSE\*\*  
(PAY SEPARATELY AT WWW.MBYLL.ORG)  
LEAGUE FEE NOT REQUIRED FOR HIGH SCHOOL, INCLUDED IN PRICE

## LEARN TO PLAY PROGRAM

- PRACTICE LOCATION - SAUNDERS
- OPEN TO BOYS AND GIRLS IN K1 AND K2
- REGISTRATION \$40 TO BOSTON YOUTH LACROSSE

\*\*NO LEAGUE FEE REQUIRED\*\*

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To learn about our COVID policies, please visit [www.bostonyouthlacrosse.org](http://www.bostonyouthlacrosse.org)

**Virtual Public Meeting**

## Flood Resilience Zoning Overlay District

**Wednesday, January 13**  
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

**Friday, January 15**  
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

**Zoom Link:** [bit.ly/CFRODJan13](https://bit.ly/CFRODJan13)  
**Toll Free:** (833) 568 - 8864  
**Meeting ID:** 161 062 3707

**Zoom Link:** [bit.ly/CFRODJan15](https://bit.ly/CFRODJan15)  
**Toll Free:** (833) 568 - 8864  
**Meeting ID:** 160 772 4427

**Project Description:**  
Please join Boston Planning & Development planning and zoning staff for a virtual meeting to review the draft Coastal Flood Resilience Zoning Overlay, which will provide new zoning definitions, dimensional and use standards for development projects to promote resilient design and better prepare new and existing buildings for future coastal storms and sea level rise. The meeting will include a presentation of the draft zoning article and updates to existing zoning, followed by Q&A and comments.

The same presentation and content will be covered at the meetings on January 13th and 15th. We will take comments on the draft Resilience Zoning Overlay until Friday, February 12th.

Translation and interpretation services can be made available upon request by reaching out to [chris.busch@boston.gov](mailto:chris.busch@boston.gov) at least a week in advance of the meeting.

mail to: **Chris Busch**  
Boston Planning & Development Agency  
One City Hall Square, 9th Floor  
Boston, MA 02201  
phone: 617.918.4451  
email: [chris.busch@boston.gov](mailto:chris.busch@boston.gov)

**Close of Comment Period:**  
2/12/2021

[BostonPlans.org](http://BostonPlans.org) | [@BostonPlans](https://twitter.com/BostonPlans)  
Teresa Polhemus, Executive Director/Secretary

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**Virtual Public Meeting**

## Hook Wharf / Harborwalk Expansion

**Tuesday, January 12**  
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

**Zoom Link:** [bit.ly/3nTwXhk](https://bit.ly/3nTwXhk)  
**Toll Free:** (833) 568 - 8864  
**Meeting ID:** 160 746 7678

**Project Description:**  
The Hook Wharf Project includes construction of a single building totaling approximately 275,000 square feet, comprised of a 357 key hotel, retail/restaurant space dedicated to James Hook & Co., new public open space, Harborwalk, and other public realm amenities.

mail to: **Ebony DaRosa**  
Boston Planning & Development Agency  
One City Hall Square, 9th Floor  
Boston, MA 02201  
phone: 617.918.4419  
email: [ebony.darosa@boston.gov](mailto:ebony.darosa@boston.gov)

[BostonPlans.org](http://BostonPlans.org) | [@BostonPlans](https://twitter.com/BostonPlans)  
Teresa Polhemus, Executive Director/Secretary

# MAYOR WALSH ANNOUNCES DELAY IN REOPENING PLAN IN BOSTON

*Measures taken to mitigate spread of COVID-19 and protect hospital capacity*

In an effort to reduce the further spread of COVID-19 after the holidays and its impact on Boston's health care system and essential services, Mayor Martin J. Walsh announced the City of Boston will remain in a modified Phase Two, Step Two of the Reopening Massachusetts plan for at least three more weeks. The current state of reopening in Boston includes restrictions announced by both the City and State in mid-December and can be found on [Boston.gov/reopening](https://www.boston.gov/reopening).

"We are in one of the most serious points of the COVID-19 pandemic so far. Our case numbers are concerning and our hospital numbers continue to be higher than we'd like," said Mayor Walsh. "Consistent with our cautious approach since the beginning of this crisis, we are extending this pause in reopening for at least another three weeks. This is not about targeting specific sectors as the cause of viral spread, but an effort to reduce overall activity happening outside people's homes. I urge everyone to do their part so that we can slow the spread of COVID-19 and eventually lift these restrictions."

The City of Boston had been in Step One of Phase Three of the Reopening Massachusetts plan since July 6 before returning to a modified Step Two of Phase Two on December 16, 2020. Boston has been experiencing a steady increase in COVID-19 cases among its residents since Thanksgiving, with the city-wide positive test rate at 8.8 percent for the week ending on December 30, 2020, up from 6.5 percent for the prior week. The percentage of occupied adult non-surge ICU beds at Boston hospitals is at 93 percent as of January 3, 2021.

Consistent with City and State guidance, gathering limits remain at 10 people for indoor settings and 25 people for outdoor settings for both private and public spaces.

Read the Boston Public Health Commission's "Order Establishing Supplemental COVID-19 Restrictions in the City of Boston."



The following industries in the City of Boston are required to remain closed for at least three weeks (January 27, 2021):

- Indoor fitness centers and health clubs, including gyms using alternative spaces. One-on-one personal training sessions are allowed.
- Movie theaters
- Museums
- Aquariums
- Indoor recreational and athletic facilities (except for youth 18 and under)
  - This does not apply to collegiate or professional sports.
  - Indoor pools may remain open for all ages under pre-registration format structure limited to one person per swim lane.
- Indoor recreational venues with potential for low-contact (batting cages, driving ranges, bowling alleys, rock-climbing)
- Sightseeing and other organized tours (bus tours, duck tours, harbor cruises, whale watching)
- Indoor historical spaces & sites
- Indoor event spaces (meeting rooms, ballrooms, private party rooms, social clubs)
  - Private social clubs may continue to operate, if they serve food, consistent with restaurant guidance.
- Indoor and outdoor gaming arcades associated with gaming devices

The following industries in the City of Boston are allowed to remain open with the following restrictions in place for at least three

weeks (January 27, 2021):

- Indoor dining in restaurants may remain in operation with restricted bar seating. The 90 minute limit on seatings to reduce crowding and prevent the spread of COVID-19 will be strictly enforced. No member of any dining party may remain in a restaurant for more than 90 minutes in any calendar day. Ancillary activities such as pool tables, darts, trivia, etc. are prohibited.
  - Bar seating is prohibited unless express written approval is issued by Boston's Licensing Board, after licensees submit a Bar Seating Plan for review and approval.
- Indoor non-athletic instructional classes in arts, education & life sciences for persons 18 years and older may continue to operate within the 10-person capacity limit.
- Outdoor event spaces used for gatherings and celebrations within the 25-person capacity limit, including those in parks, reservations, and other outdoor spaces not designated in Phase Four.
- Outdoor theaters and outdoor performance venues may continue to operate within the 25-person capacity limit.
- Motion picture, television and streaming production may continue to operate.

Per State guidance in effect since December 26, 2020, the following industries in the City of Boston are currently allowed to operate with the following restrictions in place:

- Office spaces may remain open at 25 percent capacity. Employers are strongly encouraged to allow employees to work from home as much as possible.
- Indoor dining in restaurants may remain in operation at 25 percent of seating capacity (calculated by the occupancy load as stated on a licensee's certificate of inspection issued under the State Building Code. Workers and staff are excluded from the occupancy count.)
- Close contact personal services may remain open at 25 percent capacity (workers and staff are excluded from the occupancy count.)
- Places of worship may remain open at 25 percent capacity (workers and staff are excluded from the occupancy count.)
- Retail businesses may remain open at 25 percent capacity (workers and staff are excluded from the occupancy count.)
- Golf facilities may remain open at 25 percent capacity (for indoor spaces)

As a reminder, the following State orders remain in effect to reduce the transmission of the virus:

- Temporary capacity and gathering limits: 10 persons indoors and 25 persons outdoors for both private homes and event venues and public spaces.
- Face coverings order: face masks or cloth face coverings are required in all public places, whether indoors or outdoors, even where they are able to maintain 6 feet of distance from others.
- Travel order: all visitors entering Massachusetts, including returning residents are required to:
  - Complete the Massachusetts Travel Form prior to arrival, unless visiting from a lower-risk state designated by the Department of Public Health.
  - Quarantine for 10 days or produce a negative COVID-19 test result that has been administered up to 72-hours prior to arrival in Massachusetts.
- Stay-at-Home Advisory: residents of Massachusetts are advised to stay home between the hours of 10 p.m. and 5 a.m.

For more information about Boston's reopening, please visit [boston.gov/reopening](https://www.boston.gov/reopening). For additional questions or programs, please visit our coronavirus website or call 3-1-1, Boston's 24-hour constituent hotline. Text BOSCOVID to 888-777 to receive text alerts on a regular basis, available in 11 languages.



# City Is Choosing Your Electric Supplier For You By Feb 1st Unless You Say Otherwise



**B**oston Residents began receiving notice of the program in December. Mayor Walsh's Administration has contracted Constellation NewEnergy Inc. to serve as the default electricity supplier, **unless a customer chooses not to participate**. Abner Tsadick, manager of government aggregation at Constellation, said the company's experience in energy supply aligned with Boston's climate awareness interests.

The City of Boston has taken the final steps toward implementing its Community Choice Electricity program, a plan aimed at businesses and residents and claiming more stable and affordable electricity from renewable sources. Boston would negotiate prices on behalf of those who participate in the program, using residents'

"collective buying power" as leverage for assembling what's expected to be the largest municipal aggregation program in New England.

The program is slated to launch Feb. 1, and **residents will be automatically enrolled unless they opt out**. "Boston is already one of the most energy efficient cities in the United States," Mayor Marty Walsh said in a press release, "and the start of the Community Choice Electricity program is an important step in helping us reach our ultimate goal of carbon neutrality by 2050."

"This is a brand new program for Boston," Tsadick said. "From our perspective, this is helping a customer, providing a solution that they're looking for, helping that get off the ground in a fairly quick fashion and ironing out all the wrinkles that are related to such a large program."

Beginning Dec. 14, the City started hosting 11 webinars in multiple languages for discussions with local communities on the program's logistics.

Constellation will offer three rates for consumers: Optional Basic, Standard and Optional Green 100, ranging from \$0.10959 to \$0.14764 per kilowatt-hour. These rates also vary in what sources are used to supply that energy, with the Green 100 option entirely supplied by renewable resources. The plan is part of the City's efforts to reach carbon neutrality by 2050, a goal set by the Walsh administration's Climate Action Plan.

Tsadick said higher demand for the Green 100 option could signal renewable energy's feasibility in the market to energy providers, and that Boston's program may prompt other cities to pursue similar green energy initiatives. The benefits of the program extend beyond contributing to a reduced carbon footprint, said David Musselman, director of the Municipal Energy Unit for Boston's Office of Environment.

"On the commodity component, the electrons or the electricity that we are happy to be providing," Musselman said, "just has not really been done on any sort of scale." Andy Wells-Bean, campaign coordinator for local environmental advocacy group Boston Climate Action Network, said low-income households tend to spend a higher percentage of their income on electricity than upper- and middle-income households. He added that overall cleaner energy accompanies decreased costs in the CCE program. According to Wells-Bean, he claims that if you stick with Eversource, you'll be getting less renewable electricity, and you're paying slightly more for that for the privilege of dirtier electricity. Self-servingly, he stated that if you stay in the Community Choice program then you get slightly cheaper electricity, and you get greener electricity, suggesting that it's a no-brainer.

The Eversource website states that existing customers should be

sure to evaluate factors such as the length and terms of a contract with a supplier, cancellation fees or other related information. If an Eversource customer chooses a supplier, their rates will go into effect on the next scheduled meter reading date, provided Eversource received notice at least two business days prior to the meter reading. Eversource will still deliver power to your home or business, read your meter, care for the poles and wires, provide customer service, and restore power when there is a service interruption. Also, Eversource will never go door-to-door to discuss a customer's Eversource bill or energy supply options. Eversource employees always carry identification, and customers can always call us to see if Eversource has sent someone to your home. You also have the option of blocking your electric account from authorized switching to a third-party supplier from Basic Services by requesting that protection be added to the customer's account.

Ben Hellerstein, state director for environmental advocacy group Environment Massachusetts, said the program is a strong first step. "In order to prevent the worst impacts of climate change and transition to a 100-percent renewable future, we're going to need sustained action across all parts of the state and all sectors of our economy," Hellerstein said. "Certainly, we need to keep pushing on this ... for years and years to come."

Young Workers continued from page 7  
ing successfully:

- **Focus on a business need.** What is the mentee learning the technology for? "Reverse mentorships are more successful when they focus on a broader business need," Robertson says. "For example, a tech-savvy employee could mentor on how to use social media to generate more sales leads. The company doesn't benefit unless the mentee learns how to develop and use new skills in concert with business strategy."

- **Find partners who are a sensible fit.** "An ideal mentor has

knowledge or skills that you need and is willing to build a relationship with you," Robertson says. "But can that person teach it in a way that's fairly easy to understand? Do they listen or talk over you? You need substantive engagement and a lot of question-and-answer time without added tension."

- **Be open-minded and respectful.** Reverse mentoring empowers young leaders, but at the same time they can learn from and value the older group's decades of experience. "Without mutual respect and openness it won't work," Robertson says. "The mentee has to be

willing to go outside their comfort zone. And the mentor should respect that. Both should be tactful and patient."

- **Set clear goals and expectations.** "Discuss expectations upfront," Robertson says. "Make sure you're both committed to the process and goals are aligned. Neither of you should be too busy to meet at least once weekly. Otherwise a real teaching-learning relationship isn't formed and too much falls through the cracks."

- **Track progress.** Robertson says organizations should formalize these reverse mentorship relationships

and make them quantifiable. "A mentorship relationship falls short if progress isn't tangibly measured in different stages," Robertson says. "If progress isn't where it needs to be, discuss new ways to achieve goals. Both the mentor and the mentee can determine where the gaps are and how to close them."

"Technology has blown the roof off the traditional corporate thinking of top-down learning," Robertson says. "Reverse mentoring removes barriers in today's multi-generational workforce, enhances careers, and in some cases of the oldest workers, it can extend them."

**Police Bill continued from front page**

creating the Office of Police Accountability and Transparency (OPAT) in a virtual ceremony. The office creates a single point of public access to a new standard in police accountability and community oversight, and will house and support the newly created Civilian Review Board, and the Internal Affairs Oversight Panel that builds on and strengthens the existing Community Ombudsman Oversight Panel (CO-OP) board. It also creates the overarching Office of Police Accountability and Transparency (OPAT) Commission, which collectively holds subpoena power for the OPAT, Civilian Review Board, and Internal Affairs Oversight Panel.

“Now is the time to act with urgency to dismantle systemic racism across our city,” said Mayor Walsh. “The Office of Police Accountability and Transparency will support lasting, generational change by rooting out impropriety and ensuring the type of enhanced oversight that leads to greater community trust. This is an important milestone, but it’s only the beginning. I thank the Task Force members for their dedication to engaging the community to create comprehensive recommendations that will deepen our progress towards equity in Boston.”

In June, Mayor Walsh created the Boston Police Reform Task Force, which was charged with reviewing a set of current Boston Police Department policies and procedures, and presenting

recommendations for reform. The four main areas of review were: Use of Force policies; Implicit Bias Training, the Body-worn Camera Program, and the Community Ombudsman Oversight Panel (CO-OP). The creation of the OPAT was a central recommendation from the Task Force, which issued their final recommendations in Mid-October. Mayor Walsh is currently in the process of reviewing and implementing all of the additional recommendations.

To act swiftly and enact the recommendations, Mayor Walsh previously signed two executive orders 30 days after the Task Force released their recommendations to create Boston’s first-ever Civilian Review Board, a 9-member board that will be made up of community members nominated by the City Council and the Mayor’s Office, and to reconstitute the existing CO-OP as a stronger Internal Affairs Oversight Panel that will have the power to review all completed Internal Affairs cases. The Panel will also be able to review the policies and procedures of Internal Affairs, as well as engage with the community about their impact. The Civilian Review Board and the Internal Affairs Oversight Panel will be housed within the Office of Police Accountability and Transparency, making up a two-pronged system with a single point of entry for residents. The OPAT will provide intake services, research, and administrative support to the Civilian Review Board and the Internal Affairs Oversight Panel,

and the OPAT Commission will have subpoena power to investigate misconduct.

The City of Boston is in the process of searching for an Executive Director to lead the Office of Accountability and Transparency. The Executive Director will be tasked with leading the OPAT Office and Administrative Staff, and would serve on the 3-member OPAT Commission, alongside the appointed Chairs of the CRB and IAOP. The City has launched a search to find an Executive Director who is a member of the Massachusetts bar, with the robust experience needed to lead this critical new office, and manage its operations.

“The Boston Police Reform Task Force worked diligently to produce a set of recommendations that will create real reform within the Boston Police Department,” said Boston Police Reform Task Force Chairman Wayne Budd. “I look forward to seeing how the Office of Police Accountability and Transparency enhances equity and allows the community to have greater confidence in the integrity of policing.”

In addition to formally creating OPAT, the Civilian Review Board and Internal Affairs Oversight Panel, Mayor Walsh and the City of Boston have taken significant steps to enact all of the Task Force’s additional recommendations. These include Mayor Walsh filing a Home Rule Petition at the Boston City Council that would give Boston high school graduates a preference in police hiring. The Mayor’s Home Rule Petition was passed by the City Council on December 16, and will now go to the State House. Mayor Walsh also charged City leaders, such as Chief of Equity Karilyn Crockett, to work with the Boston Police Department on evaluating and updating their policies through a lens of equity and to create a Diversity and Inclusion Unit in the Department.

These key steps build on the City of Boston’s dedication to enhancing equity within public safety offices. On June

12th, Mayor Walsh signed the “Mayor’s Pledge” issued by the Obama Foundation’s My Brother’s Keeper Alliance as one of the strategies to address racism as an emergency and public health crisis. The Mayor committed the City of Boston to review police use of force policies; engage communities by including a diverse range of input experiences and stories; report review findings to the community and seek feedback; and reform police use of force policies. The Boston Police Reform Task Force was composed of members from the community, law enforcement, advocacy organizations, and the legal profession, to ensure that these commitments are translated to actions.

“Our success is rooted in the bonds we create with the community and the trust we build through those relationships,” said Boston Police Commissioner William Gross. “The creation of the Office of Police Accountability and Transparency will ensure we are living up to the ideal standard of community policing.”

On June 11, 2020, Boston Police Commissioner William Gross announced he completed a review of Boston Police’s policies against the recommended use of force policies outlined in the “8 Can’t Wait” effort, resulting in clarified rules and the implementation of several reforms. In addition, as part of Mayor Walsh’s Fiscal Year 2021 (FY21) budget, Mayor Walsh allocated 20% (or \$12 million) of the Boston Police Department’s overtime budget to make a significant investment in equity and inclusion across the City.

The signing of the ordinance for an Office of Police Accountability and Transparency is a significant step forward towards a more just police department and represents the tireless work of the Boston Police Reform Task Force and the community members who engaged in this process. Over the summer, the Task Force held five separate public listening sessions, and received over 100 pieces of testimony from the community, over the course of two written comment periods.

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# Councilor Flynn Releases End of Year Report

Dear neighbors,

I hope that you and your families are enjoying this Christmas and holiday season. As we continue to confront the COVID-19 pandemic and its effects, my team and I have worked diligently with City of Boston officials, fellow neighbors, and local nonprofit partners to continue to deliver basic city services, access to nutritious food for our seniors and families in need, personal protective equipment (PPE) to our caregivers and residents, as well as support for our veterans and youth sports groups.

I am writing to provide you with an update on our work this year and some of the key areas that we focused on: public health & testing, pedestrian & public safety, housing & development, standing with our working families, civil rights, and quality of life issues. We organized over 200 volunteers to make phone calls and check in on the health and wellbeing of thousands of our seniors throughout District 2. I have also continued to advocate for families throughout our city to the best of my ability at City Hall and the Council, as well as other actions listed below.

Thank you very much for your support and your compassion for your neighbors. I wish you and your family a Merry Christmas, and a safe and happy holiday season.

## Public Health

- Called for a hearing to discuss the creation of a Frontline Workers COVID-19 Health Registry;
- Called for a hearing to discuss ways for the City to be more proactive in providing services, educating the public, and raising awareness for those infected with HIV/AIDS;
- Called and held a hearing to discuss large house parties and gatherings during the COVID-19 pandemic;
- Sponsored and passed a resolution supporting our nurses and healthcare workers during the COVID-19 pandemic;
- Sponsored and passed a resolution urging insurance carriers to provide continuous coverage to residents during the COVID-19 pandemic.

## Quality of Life

- Called for a hearing to discuss after hours construction and development issues;
- Called and held a hearing on issues related to stray voltage;
- Called and held a hearing to discuss pest control and illegal dumping;
- Called and held a hearing on water and sewer infrastructure.

## Traffic and Public Safety

- Called for a hearing to discuss security at high-rise garages;
- Called for a hearing to discuss establishing a Traffic Master Plan for South Boston;
- Called and held a hearing to discuss safety of construction sites;
- Called and held a hearing to discuss speeding cars as a public health emergency and address infrastructure improvements;
- Called and held a hearing to discuss pedestrian safety, traffic enforcement, and Vision Zero.

## Civil and Human Rights

- Called for a hearing to discuss ways for the City to prevent and investigate incidents of hate crimes and discrimination;
- Sponsored and passed a resolution supporting our immigrant communities during the COVID-19 pandemic;
- Sponsored and passed a resolution supporting H. RES 908, "Condemning All Forms Of Anti-Asian Sentiment As Related to COVID-19";
- Sponsored and passed a resolution supporting Congressional Bill S. 2043, "Jabara-Heyer No Hate Act";
- Sponsored and passed a resolution supporting our Chinese and Asian communities during the COVID-19 pandemic.

## Housing and Development

- Called and held a hearing to discuss ways to support tenants facing eviction and displacement;
- Opposed project unfavorable to abutters & neighborhood associations;
- Brought Inspectional Services to meet with concerned neighbors.

## Social and Economic Justice

- Called for a hearing to discuss renewal fees for restaurants and food establishments during the COVID-19 pandemic;
- Called for a hearing to discuss



the impact of 3rd party delivery commission fees on restaurants during the COVID-19 pandemic;

- Called and held a hearing to discuss the impact of CORI on access to employment and other opportunities;
- Called and held a hearing on internet access and digital equity;
- Sponsored and passed a resolution in support of Marriott Copley workers and support of a statewide "Right To Recall" for Boston hotel workers;
- Sponsored and passed a resolution in support of Four Seasons Hotel workers and support of a statewide "Right To Recall" for Boston hotel workers;
- Sponsored and passed a resolution in support of Revere Hotel workers and support of a statewide "Right To Recall" for Boston hotel workers.

## Veteran Affairs

- Called and held a hearing to discuss resources available through Boston's Veteran Services during the COVID-19 pandemic;
- Sponsored and passed a resolution commemorating Veterans Day And honoring all those who served our country;
- Sponsored and passed a resolution celebrating the centennial Of Disabled American Veterans (DAV);
- Sponsored and passed a resolution recognizing National Purple Heart Day;

- Sponsored and passed a resolution recognizing African American Veterans achievements during Black History Month;
- Sponsored and passed a resolution recognizing Women Veterans during Women's History Month.

## Other Actions

- Called and held a hearing to discuss Boston's electoral recount process;
- Called and held a hearing to discuss ways to promote a complete and accurate count for the 2020 Census;
- Sponsored and passed a resolution recognizing Braille Literary Month;
- Sponsored and passed a resolution recognizing International Week Of The Deaf;
- Sponsored and passed a resolution celebrating the Centennial adoption of the 19th Amendment granting women's right to vote;
- Sponsored and passed a resolution celebrating American Disabilities Act's 30th anniversary;
- Sponsored and passed a resolution recognizing Native American Heritage Day;
- Sponsored and passed a resolution commemorating the 175th Anniversary of the Great Famine (Gaelic: An Gorta Mor).

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



# South Boston Catholic Academy News *Highlights from the Art Class*

From our Art Teacher, Ms. Valerie Szmurlo... Even though this school year looks a little different, it has not stopped students from being their most creative! In fourth grade, we read the book "The Color of Us" and talked about how we can make our cartoon portraits look like ourselves. Students explored how to create skin tones and focus on defining features (eye color, freckles, glasses, etc.). The second grade students created a pumpkin patch showing foreground, middle ground and background using paper and model magic. They even got spooky with witches and ghosts. K1, students learned about International Dot Day by reading the book "The Dot". Students learned that no matter what their skills are, they can create their own master-

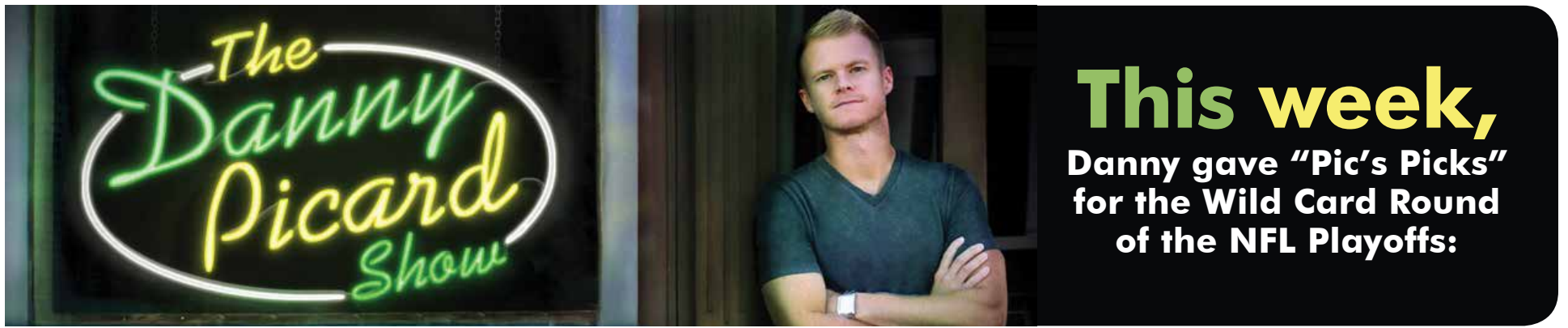
piece. They learned how to place and overlap paper circles to create their own dot art.

In fifth grade we did a Nutcracker lesson where we talked about nutcrackers, their significance and finally how to draw them. The sixth grade, students learned how to draw realistic self-portraits by using correct proportions and also defining facial features. Third grade learned how to create hot chocolate mugs showing warm colors for the background and cool colors for the foreground. I can't wait to see what else my South Boston Catholic Academy students create in 2021!

New applicants are welcomed to email Mrs. Jamie Brown at [j.brown@sbcatholicacademy.org](mailto:j.brown@sbcatholicacademy.org) to learn more about South Boston Catholic Academy.







## This week, Danny gave "Pic's Picks" for the Wild Card Round of the NFL Playoffs:

**I**nished the 2020 NFL regular season with a 39-33-3 record against the spread. Now, it's time for the playoffs, which begins with what they're now calling "Super Wild Card Weekend." It's now "Super" because there's an additional Wild Card team in each conference.

Instead of the top-two seeds in each conference getting a first-round bye like previous years, this year we'll see only the No. 1 seed in each conference getting the first-round bye. Which means, there will be a total of six playoff games on Wild Card weekend, instead of the usual four playoff games in the Wild Card round that we're used to seeing.

It will be strange not watching the Patriots in these playoffs. But it won't be strange watching Tom Brady still slinging in January. He'll just be doing it with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, who I'll be rooting for, because, full disclosure, I've been rooting for the Bucs all season long.

But anyways, I'm picking all six games. Here are my picks for the Wild Card Round:

**SEATTLE SEAHAWKS (-3.5)**  
over Los Angeles Rams

-The No. 3 seed Seahawks host the No. 6 seed Rams on Saturday at 4:40. These division rivals split their

two games in the regular season. The Seahawks enter the playoffs having won four straight, while the Rams lost two of their last three and are dealing with possibly not having starting quarterback Jared Goff available, as he's dealing with a thumb injury. Goff hasn't been ruled out just yet, but it's definitely worth noting. Seattle's defense this season isn't what we're used to seeing, while the Rams defense is No. 1 in the NFL allowing just 18.5 points per game. I still see Seattle winning by a touchdown at home in this one. Give me the 12-win Seahawks to win and cover.

**TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS (-8)**  
over Washington Football Team

-This one is in primetime on Saturday night. And get this, it's in D.C. That's right, because No. 4 seed Washington won its division, it gets to host a first-round playoff game, even after finishing the regular season with a 7-9 record. The Buccaneers are the No. 5 seed and went 11-5 in the regular season, winning their last four games. It seems that Tom Brady is rolling with all his new weapons in Tampa. And the Bucs have a top-10 defense. There is no way that Washington wins this game. But will Tampa

cover? Chase Young seems locked in on keeping it close, and while I think he's a great young defensive player, he should've kept his mouth shut instead of proclaiming he "wants" to see Brady in the playoffs. Well, be careful what you wish for. Buccaneers win by two touchdowns.

**TENNESSEE TITANS (+3)**  
over Baltimore Ravens

-The No. 5 seed Ravens lost to the No. 4 seed Titans in November, but Baltimore has been rolling since. The Ravens have won five straight, and seem to be finding their offensive rhythm at the perfect time. Still, I just have a hard time betting against Derrick Henry in this one. It must be noted that Baltimore's last three wins were against the Jaguars, Giants, and Bengals. Also, Tennessee is an underdog at home, while having the same 11-5 record as the Ravens and already having beat them this season? If that's not disrespectful, then I don't know what is. Give me the Titans to win at home on Sunday at 1 p.m.

**NEW ORLEANS SAINTS (-9.5)**  
over Chicago Bears

-The No. 2 seed Saints beat the No. 7 seed Bears already this season, but it was a close game in Chicago. Now, these two teams meet in New Orleans

on Sunday at 4:40. Drew Brees is from injury, and while some might take the points here, I think New Orleans finds a way to win big. I'll take the Saints to beat an 8-win Bears team by at least 10.

**PITTSBURGH STEELERS (-6)**  
over Cleveland Browns

-The No. 3 seed Steelers and No. 6 seed Browns split their two games this season. The big story here in the third matchup is that Cleveland's head coach will miss the game because of a positive Covid test. This was already an uphill battle for the Browns in Pittsburgh on Sunday night. Now their coach is out? I like the Steelers a lot in this game, so I'm taking them to win by seven.

**LOCK OF THE WEEK: INDIANAPOLIS COLTS (+6.5)**  
over Buffalo Bills

-The Colts are a No. 7 seed at 11-5, which is a tougher first-round matchup than expected for the No. 2 seed Bills. This is in Buffalo on Saturday at 1, the first game of the weekend. But it's my lock because I think the Colts cover. But they might lose a close game to Buffalo. Still, a cover is a cover. Give me the points as my lock.

*Follow Danny on Twitter and Instagram @DannyPicard.*

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# SPORTS TODAY

## PATRIOTS CAPTAIN CHARA MOVES ON FROM BRUINS, SIGNS WITH CAPITALS

SBT Staff

**B**ruins captain Zdeno Chara has decided to move on from Boston, signing a one-year, \$795,000 deal with the Washington Capitals.

Chara turns 44 in March. He spent 14 seasons with the Bruins, and helped Boston win its first Stanley Cup since 1972 when the B's hoisted the iconic trophy in Vancouver in 2011.

He chose to leave Boston for D.C. after Bruins GM Don Sweeney shared the team's plans to move forward with younger defensemen, informing Chara

that his usual role would diminish if he stayed. So he chose to leave.

Chara posted a heartfelt message on Instagram, announcing his decision.

"My family and I have been so fortunate to call the great city of Boston our home for over 14 years," said Chara in the post. "Recently, the Boston Bruins have informed me that they plan to move forward with their many younger and talented players and I respect their decision. Unfortunately, my time as the proud Captain of the Bruins has come to an end.

"I want to first of all thank the pas-

sionate and loyal Bruins fans, who shared the ups and downs of each season over the past 14 years. I'm proud that we were able to return the Stanley Cup to Boston and celebrating with all of you, in Boston, New England, and around the world, was a moment I will never forget. You all have treated my family and me as one of your own and I will always be grateful. Thank you."

Chara went on to thank his teammates, coaches, staff, and ownership, in the post.

The Capitals come to the TD Garden on Wednesday, March 3.

## Tweet of the Week



Boston Bruins  
@NHLBruins



## WHAT TO WATCH

**NFL WILD CARD PLAYOFFS**  
SATURDAY, JAN. 9  
Indianapolis at Buffalo (-6.5)  
1:05 P.M. CBS

LA Rams at Seattle (-3.5)  
4:40 P.M. FOX

Tampa Bay (-8) at Washington  
8:15 P.M. NBC

**SUNDAY, JAN. 10**  
Baltimore (-3) at Tennessee  
1:05 P.M. ABC/ESPN

Chicago at New Orleans (-9.5)  
4:40 P.M. CBS

Cleveland at Pittsburgh (-6)  
8:15 P.M. NBC

**NCAAF MONDAY, JAN. 11**  
National Championship  
#3 Ohio State vs #1 Alabama (-7.5)  
8 P.M. ESPN

## REPORT: NEWTON DONE IN NEW ENGLAND

SBT Staff

**I**t was a season to forget for a Patriots team that's had personal real estate in the NFL Playoffs the last 20 years. This year, however, there will be no post-season for the 7-9 Pats. And according to a report from ESPN's Adam Schefter, it will be a one-and-done campaign for Cam Newton in New England.

"Patriots quarterback Cam Newton sounded resigned, this week, to the fact that he'll be moving on from New England," said Schefter during ESPN's Sunday morning pregame show, before the last week of the regular season. "It looks like [Newton]'s looking for something different, the Patriots are looking for something different. Both sides enjoyed their relationship, but, both sides expect that it will take them to a different place in a different direction in 2021, with Cam Newton likely moving on, and the Patriots in search of a new quarterback next season."

Newton turns 32 in May. He signed a one-year deal with the Patriots last off-season. Newton finished his lone season with the Patriots throwing just eight touchdown passes, while rushing for 12 touchdowns. He also threw 10 interceptions.

## PATRIOTS FINISH DISAPPOINTING SEASON WITH WIN OVER JETS

SBT Staff

**T**hat's all she wrote for the 2020 New England Patriots, whose season came to an end last weekend after a Week 17 win over the New York Jets at Gillette Stadium.

New England finished with a 7-9 record. It's the franchise's worst regular-season record since Bill Belichick's first year as coach in 2000, when the Patriots went 5-11.

It also marks the first time since 2008 that the Patriots have missed

out on the playoffs, and the first time since 2008 that the Patriots did not win the AFC East.

The 13-3 Buffalo Bills won the division this year. New England finished in third place, behind the second-place Miami Dolphins at 10-6.

Saturday marks the beginning of the Wild Card Round of the NFL Playoffs, but for the Patriots, the only thing to look forward to is their 2021 schedule. The 16 teams that New England will play in 2021

were officially released this week. The exact dates of the schedule have yet to be determined. But we do know the opponents.

The Patriots will travel to Atlanta, Carolina, Houston, Indianapolis, Los Angeles (Chargers), Buffalo, Miami, and New York (Jets).

The eight teams coming to Gillette Stadium are Buffalo, Miami, New York (Jets), Cleveland, Jacksonville, New Orleans, Tennessee, and yes, Tom Brady's Tampa Bay Buccaneers.



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