

# SouthBoston TODAY

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February 18, 2021: Vol.9 Issue 7 SERVING SOUTH BOSTONIANS AROUND THE GLOBE



## Teachers Union National President Wants To Get Students Back Into The Classroom

Randi Weingarten, the nation's most powerful teachers' union president, delivered that message to the New York Times recently. She spends 15 hours per day on the phone, she says — with local labor leaders, mayors, the White House, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention — trying to figure out how to reopen the three-quarters of school systems that remain fully or partially shut-

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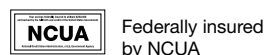
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# EDITORIAL

## If This Winter Is Getting To You, Just Remember 2015

It's natural for people to complain about the weather. Living in New England, we have plenty of opportunities, especially in winter, to voice our displeasure. And while December and January were relatively low in the complaint department – the weather wasn't too bad at all – February roared into town with a vengeance with frigid temperatures, some snow and the recent ice storm that had so many slip sliding around. But in a way, if we take the time to look back on the winter of 2015, we can pretty much count our blessings – remember? It was brutal.

Just a review of that sampling of a modern ice age can bring back memories still etched in so many minds because of its intensity. But there were some comical things to remember as well.

For instance, who can forget

Mayor Walsh taking to the air waves almost pleading with Boston residents to stop jumping out of second floor and even 3rd floor windows? Yeah, it was fun for some but actually necessary for some others to just be able to get out of their houses, because the snow drifts were piled so high up against their front doors. With a storm hitting us just about every week and some weeks TWO storms, one Boston daily newspaper ran a front page photo showing a beleaguered man with shovel in hand standing in chest deep snow with the words “UNCLE!”, indicating that Bostonians had had enough.

With so much snow piling up, the newly elected Governor Baker appeared on TV saying that it may be that it is environmentally ‘not cool’ to start dumping it in the ocean, there was just no place left to



put it. Some cars were buried so deep in snow piles that their owners didn't bother digging them out until April.

It was not an uncommon sight to see people navigating the snow-covered streets using cross country skis, and rumor had it that at least one TAXI company was considering adding dog sleds to their fleet of vehicles. The pile of snow dumped in one City of Boston labor yard was so big that there were still traces of it in July. So, the point of this editorial is that YES, winter can be a pain sometimes, but we've had it a whole lot worse.

## LENT 2021



Gate of Heaven & St Brigid of Kildare Parishes  
All Masses below will be streamed “LIVE” on our website  
[www.gateofheavenstbrigid.org](http://www.gateofheavenstbrigid.org)

Evening Mass at 5:15PM - Wednesdays During Lent  
Attend Mass in person or watch online on our website  
Wednesday, February 24 – Gate of Heaven Church

Homily/Reflection – Fr. Casey

Wednesday, March 3 - Saint Brigid Church

Homily/Reflection – Fr. Boyle

Wednesday, March 10 Gate of Heaven Church

Homily/Reflection – Deacon Danny, SJ

Wednesday, March 17 – Saint Brigid Church

Homily/Reflection – Msgr. Liam - Feast of St. Patrick

Wednesday, March 24 Gate of Heaven Church

Homily/Reflection – TBA

Wednesday, March 31 Gate of Heaven Church

Homily/Reflection – Fr. Patrick Nolan, SJ

Daily Mass (Monday – Friday)

Gate of Heaven Church: Monday through Friday at 9AM

St. Brigid Church: Monday through Friday at 7AM

Stations of the Cross

Watch on our Website - <https://www.gateofheavenstbrigid.org>

Confessions During Lent – Palm Sunday Weekend

We will wait until the end of Lent to have time for Confessions, hopefully when the percentage of

COVID spread is much lower, and more people receive the vaccine. 4 priests will be available.

Saturday, March 27 – Gate of Heaven Church - 2:30 – 3:45PM

Sunday, March 28 – Saint Brigid Church - 4:30 – 5:45PM

## South Boston Catholic Young Adult Commission

The South Boston YAC will be hosting a prayer group on Thursday evenings during Lent. The prayer group will spend time reflecting on the upcoming Sunday Gospel as well as facilitating other discussions relating to life

as a Catholic young adult in South Boston.

The group supports the mission of South Boston's Roman Catholic parishes by organizing various spiritual, social, and service activities throughout the year.

If you would like to be a

part of this group and receive email updates - please email us at [SouthBostonCatholicYAC@gmail.com](mailto:SouthBostonCatholicYAC@gmail.com) or sign-up at the doors of the Church.

There are also informational cards at each door of the Church at Gate of Heaven

and St. Brigid Parishes.

For more information, please contact Fr. Boyle at the Parish Office - 617-268-2122, ext. 13.

We look forward to welcoming you to the South Boston Catholic Young Adult Commission!



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# The Information Center

## *When Gas Prices Rise, Most Everything Else Follows*

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY

John Ciccone

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

A neighbor contacted this newspaper last week in a tantrum bordering on rage about how quick gas prices at the pump were jumping. He uses his compact SUV for work, for travel and to shuttle the kids to and from school and other events not to mention just shopping. “It’s almost like I have to get to the pumps in the early morning hours, because if I wait until the evening, the price will have gone up yet again”. Is he right? Pretty much.

Some non-thinking person might respond by saying something like – oh suck it up. We’ve had it good for the last 4 years under President Trump with the cost of a gallon of gas as low as \$1.50. Did we expect that to last forever? Well, yes and why not? With the energy independence our country attained thanks to fracking, increased drilling of oil and being awash in abundant natural gas supplies, all of which is produced right here in the United States, that’s how it should have stayed. But then, enter Biden and the Democrats and the good days of affordable energy prices are out the window, for as long as this bunch stays in office. This of course has already caused thousands of Americans to lose their jobs, as Biden kills the pipelines. But what so many people in Biden’s inner circle (aka his puppet masters) could not care less about is that rising energy prices don’t just affect people who drive cars. Not even close.

As the price to fill the tanks of vehicles skyrockets, it has an effect on the price of everything else. Since most food including meat, produce, milk etc. is transported to stores and markets by truck, the farmers/ranchers will have no choice but to raise their prices to pay for the increase cost of shipping. And it’s not just food since most everything is shipped by truck and some by plane. Clothing, electronics, household

supplies, building materials etc. do not move by wagon train. Fossil Fuel powered vehicles are what gets goods from farm and factory to your home. The cost of Jet fuel is even MORE outrageous. So, in a few months, when you get sticker shock, because a tomato cost six bucks, a loaf of bread costs \$7.50 and a gallon of milk forces you to take out a small loan, remember not to blame the farmers. Blame Biden and the Democrats who have clearly proven that they don’t really give a rip about everyday families who find their standard of living taking a nosedive. It’s all because special interests groups, particularly environmental activists and their anti-American agendas, take precedence over everything and everyone with the new DC regime and now the whole country now knows it. Oh, I almost forgot. Better brace yourselves for when those new heating and electric bills on steroids start rolling in. But that’s a story for next week.

Moving on to the impeachment farce that just cost the taxpayers millions more dollars. The attempt to impeach a President no longer in office begged the question: Was it all based on hate for Trump or was it meant to be a distraction from other things in the works that the public wouldn’t approve of?

Many Americans are convinced it was both. President Trump’s lawyers showed video clip after clip that had the likes of Pelosi, crazy Maxine, Adam Schiff, Biden and a whole cast of other buffoons making inflammatory statements urging violence. There were also clips of these people brushing off the rioting, looting and burning going on all summer in city after city, and in some cases, actually condoning it and bailing the rioters out of jail so they could continue rioting.

As the Democrat politicians watched video after video, nothing about it all

seemed to bother them in the least. It was as if the calls for violence coming from their party weren’t an issue to be given a second thought. Cops being assaulted, blinded with lasers, and even killed, was a non issue as well. But a speech by Trump was an outrage and a travesty that caused an “insurrection”. The fact that it was exposed that they actually and deliberately edited out the part when Trump told all of his supporters to protest ‘peacefully’ would have been an embarrassment to decent people. But it didn’t faze this bunch in the least.

Many have noticed that the calls for

unity have subsided. When people like Pelosi, Schumer and their media allies say they want ‘unity’, what they mean is they want the 75 million people who voted against them to submit to their way of doing things. The Conservative population is expected to change their ways – to act, speak, think, vote and live like good liberals or else. This of course is unacceptable and will never happen. So at least at this point in time, the country will stay divided. And just as the ‘left’ looks upon patriotic Americans as the enemy, the patriots must respond in kind in an effort to save this nation from the left’s goal of imposing Socialism.

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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.

### Even if vaccinated, some teachers won't teach

This Globe story by Naomi Martin – and its headline – is a definite talker. It seems many teachers in hard-hit Gateway Cities still won't teach in-person classes even if they get vaccinated. Martin explains the complicated reasons why so many teachers – and administrators and parents – are reluctant to reopen schools as long as the coronavirus can infect so many others. Btw, via MassLive's Jim Russell: "Most Amherst school teachers not volunteering to teach in-person; 1 in 5 plan to come March."

### Groups jockeying for early vaccinations: The list keeps growing

We should have done this earlier, i.e. start a running tab on groups jockeying to get bumped up higher on the state's vaccine-priority list. Obviously, we have teachers, sort of (see post above.) But as of this morning, we also have funeral home workers (CBS Boston) and home-bound and disabled people (Globe). Some also think Black and brown communities need to be given higher priority (GBH). Meanwhile, there's all those Baby Boomers waiting in the wings and not exactly thrilled others might slip in ahead of them (Globe). Fyi: Each one of these groups has compelling and even moral cases for getting bumped up higher on lists. But ... there's only so many vaccine doses out there.

### Is the state's vaccine rollout really that bad?

Shaun Chaiyabhat at WCVB has an interesting piece in which two Harvard types disagree on how the state's vaccine rollout is proceeding. One is giving the rollout a failing grade. The other says Massachusetts has "not only caught up but moved to the front of the pack." Meanwhile, John Monahan at Boston 25 News sees improvements too: "Mass vaccination sites help COVID-19 vaccine rollout run smoother."

Finally, think long lines and frustrations are a Massachusetts thing? Think again. The NYT reports on the high demand and low supply of vaccines across the country.

### Lawmakers to Baker: Spend the damn relief money

That federal relief money that the Baker administration hasn't spent yet, more than \$1 billion of it? Some lawmakers are urging the governor to start spending it to help people and communities, reports the Herald's Erin Tiernan. Budget watchdog groups aren't so sure that's the way to go.

### Companion to the end: Heroux says he got vaccine to keep it from being wasted

He's nowhere near being officially eligible, but 44-year-old Attleboro Mayor and former state lawmaker Paul Heroux says he got a shot of the coronavirus vaccine recently after driving two seniors to get their jabs -- and he says he only took it after being assured it would go to waste otherwise, George Rhodes at the Sun Chronicle reports.

### Advocates: The time for early education is now

The Globe's Stephanie Ebbert reports that state lawmakers and advocates plan to unveil today an ambitious campaign for first-in-the-nation publicly funded early education programs, including making child care free for lowest-income families and using sliding fees for middle-income people.

No costs estimate are provided, nor information on how the programs would be funded. But the costs are expected to be in the hundreds of millions of dollars.

### Auchincloss: Leftward ho!

Facing a potential rematch against progressive candidates who he narrowly defeated in last year's Dem primary, new U.S. Rep. Jake Auchincloss, who once registered as a Republican, is trying to prove

his lefty bonafides, pronouncing to one and all: "I am a full-throated advocate for liberal priorities." The Globe's Liz Goodwin and Victoria McGrane have more his noticeable leftward lurch since taking office.

### Auchincloss II: Why not use the 14th Amendment to bar Trump from future offices?

Another lefty bonafide? The Herald's Rick Sobey reports how Democrats, including U.S. Rep. Jake Auchincloss, are now eyeing the 14th Amendment as a way to bar former President Donald Trump from ever holding elected office again.

### Doris Bunte, first Black female elected to House, RIP

Doris Bunte, 87, the first Black woman elected to be a state representative in Massachusetts and the first Black woman to run the Boston Housing Authority, has passed away. The Globe's Bryan Marquand has more on the amazing life of Bunte, who first arrived in Boston in 1953 with only 98 cents to her name.

### Loosen up: Springfield councilors want ban on casino jobs for city pols rolled back

On second thought ... Members of the Springfield City Council say a 2015 rule restricting the city's mayor and other leaders from taking jobs at MGM Springfield after leaving office now seems too harsh and should be revisited, Peter Goonan at MassLive reports. We wonder what good-government types think of this move.

### BPD commissioner's daughter says domestic violence allegation 'was a lie'

Here's a new twist on the Dennis White saga: His daughter is now saying a decades-old domestic abuse allegation against her police commissioner father 'was a lie' concocted by her mother and his ex-wife. Saraya Wintersmith at GBH has more.

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### CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION Docket No. SU21P0105EA Commonwealth Of Massachusetts The Trial Court

**Probate and Family Court**  
Estate of: Anthony Francis Vinitzky

**Date of Death: 10/11/2020**  
Suffolk Probate and Family Court  
24 New Chardon Street  
Boston, MA 02114 (617) 788-8300

To all interested persons:  
A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by

**Nancy A. Barnes of Mashpee 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:

**Nancy A. Barnes of Mashpee MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration**  
**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

**You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 03/18/2021. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.**

**UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)**

**A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration.**

**WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court.**

January 28, 2021  
Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate  
**Published February 18, 2021**



# REP. BIELE APPOINTED VICE CHAIR OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND HOMELAND SECURITY

*Also assigned to Committee on Ways and Means, Committee on Economic Development and Committee on Export Development*



Recently, **Representative David Biele (D-Boston)** was appointed to four legislative committees for the current two-year session of the Massachusetts Legislature, the 192nd General Court:

**Rep. Biele**, currently in his second term, was named **Vice Chair of the Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security**

which considers matters relating to shipping or otherwise transporting energy sources; the safety of the public; fire laws; motor vehicle laws; the correction system; probation; homeland or Commonwealth security matters; the prevention of terrorists attacks; the reduction of the vulnerability to terrorism; and the coordination of homeland security related activities of the Commonwealth with those of the Federal Government.

Additionally, **Rep. Biele** was appointed as a member to three legislative committees:

- **Joint Committee on Ways and Means**, which examines matters relating to the finances of the Commonwealth and such other matters as may be referred thereto. Each year, the Committee on Ways and Means helps craft and develop the state budget;

- **Joint Committee on Economic Development and Emerging Technologies**, which examines matters

relating to commercial and industrial businesses; gambling and gaming; science and technology; economic development; research and development; medical technology and medical devices; computer access (Internet, networking, data storage); and workforce training and development; and

- **Joint Committee on Export Development**, which examines matters concerning exports, trade, and international competitiveness; development of partnerships between the Commonwealth and other states and nations related to trade and commerce; and support of Massachusetts goods and services in national and international markets.

“I am honored to have the opportunity to serve on these committees and work on issues impacting our community and our Commonwealth. I am grateful to **Speaker Ron Mariano** for selecting me to serve on these committees and for the support of my colleagues in confirming

these assignments,” said **Rep. Biele**. “I want to especially thank the residents of the 4th Suffolk District for placing your trust and confidence in me and for the honor and privilege of representing our neighborhoods in the Massachusetts House of Representatives. I look forward to the work ahead with residents and colleagues in government to make a positive difference in our communities and across our state.”

Last term, **Rep. Biele** served on the committees on: State Administration and Regulatory Oversight; Community Development and Small Business; Economic Development and Emerging Technologies; and Export Development. He also served as a Commissioner on the Metropolitan Beaches Commission, charged with reviewing the state of public beaches, including beaches in South Boston and Dorchester, and developing recommendations to protect those beaches while increasing public access and enjoyment.

## FIRMS SELECTED TO DEVELOP BOSTON'S FIRST URBAN FOREST PLAN

*Guided by interdepartmental collaboration and community engagement, the plan's goal is to develop strategies to grow and protect Boston's trees*



**Mayor Martin J. Walsh** and Boston Parks and Recreation Commissioner Ryan Woods announced the consultants selected to develop Boston's Urban Forest Plan. Boston landscape archi-

tecture firm Stoss Landscape Urbanism and forestry consultant Urban Canopy Works have been selected to co-lead the effort to develop the City of Boston's first Urban Forest Plan. Stoss was awarded the contract with Urban Canopy Works as a sub-consultant. The 20-year plan will set citywide goals for canopy protection, be responsive to climate change and development, and enhance the quality of life for all Bostonians. The Urban Forest Plan will be a collaborative effort that includes a community advisory group, interdepartmental working group and community outreach. Recognizing that environmental injustice exists in Boston, the planning process will embed support

for communities that have been disproportionately impacted by environmental stressors. Planning will touch upon a wide variety of topics, such as ecology, design, policy, practices and funding.

The project team will also work closely with a community advisory group and an interdepartmental working group with input from residents, community organizations, businesses, and institutions. Kicking off in spring of 2021, the planning process will take approximately one year to complete. The community advisory group will be formed in late spring of this year. The public will have an opportunity to weigh in on the plan in early fall, after the assess-

ment and scoping phases.

One of the project tasks, along with scoping the project and assessing the existing state of the canopy, will be to develop a plan for engaging the community. The outreach plan will prioritize populations that have been disproportionately exposed to environmental stressors; be sensitive to differences in cultures, economic realities, and built environments across Boston; incorporate City of Boston Language and Communications Access guidelines; consider equity and accessibility in both in-person and online engagement strategies; and retain flexibility to adapt engagement strategies in response to changing

**continued on page 6**

# I Was Just Thinking...



by Kevin Devlin

**A**s of this writing, Governor Andrew Cuomo has refused to apologize for

his error in judgement concerning the deaths of thousands of New Yorkers in nursing homes. He should be a man and simply admit he was wrong in the handling of nursing home patients. He made a mistake and never should have sent them back there to die.

The governor should just say he's sorry for the fatal mishandling of these senior citizens during this pandemic but refuses to do so.

"Gov. Cuomo's latest bid to tame the cascading waves of criticism over his handling of the nursing-home catastrophe was so riddled with falsehoods and misinformation that it's hard to know what he was thinking," wrote Michael Goodwin of the New York Post. "Does he really believe he's viewed as a trustworthy person whose word

is taken at face value in Albany and beyond?"

Governor Cuomo doesn't want to take the blame for his error in judgement yet gladly accepted an Emmy and wrote a book describing his leadership qualities during the pandemic. Ostensibly (but not to his Honor) attempting to shift the blame elsewhere isn't a good look. It's actually a horrible and disconcerting stance by him. His defense is despicable and totally unbelievable to fair-minded people who have tired of his mis-directions embedded in defective reasoning. People are angry, even those in his own party, who want to know the truth and want him to fess up and be honest.

This tragic situation would haunt most people, but I doubt if he, with all his arrogance, will

lose a moment of sleep regarding this tragic situation. After all, in his guilt-free, solipsistic world, Governor Cuomo didn't do anything wrong, but everyone else did.

Speaking of Governors, the Recall Gavin Newsom campaign in California announced last Friday that they have collected the necessary number of signatures (1,509,000) for a recall vote against Gavin Newsom. This campaign has set a goal of collecting 1.8 million signatures by the March deadline in anticipation some might be deemed invalid and thrown out by the California's secretary of state. One notable element in this recall is that many citizens, who usually don't get involved in politics, did sign the petition, an ominous sign for the lockdown governor.

Walsh continued from page 5

public health recommendations.

Joining Stoss Landscape Urbanism and Urban Canopy Works, the plan will be developed with contributions from American Forests, Nitsch Engineering, PlanITGeo, local experts, and the public. Dr. Neenah-Estrella Luna of Northeastern University will support the effort to make environmental justice the foundation of the project.

The final plan document will highlight policy tools to control canopy loss on private property, as well as guidelines for protecting and expanding canopy on public property, like streets and parks. Over the past five years, tree removals on residential, private, and institutional property have been the main contributors to canopy loss. The finalized plan will provide recommendations for canopy protection and expansion through proposed changes to the development review process, as well as new policies and ordinances, including draft language and methods of enforcement aimed at protecting and expanding the tree canopy.

The Urban Forest Plan is a critical piece of the vision for the City's tree canopy goals laid out in Imagine Boston 2030 and Climate Ready Boston. The City launched Climate Ready Boston

in 2016 to develop resilient solutions to prepare for the effects of climate change: flooding due to sea-level rise, increased storms, and extreme heat. Urban Forest planning is closely aligned with Climate Ready Boston, as trees provide cooling shade, reduce the risk of heat illness, and are key to making Boston's communities resilient to climate change. Targeted investments in green infrastructure will be important, as heat island exposure is greater in neighborhoods with limited green space. The City of Boston Environment Department will be launching a heat resilience planning study this spring.

In addition to the \$500,000 budgeted for the Urban Forest Plan, historic investments in Boston's tree canopy this year will also support the hiring of a new arborist and the added capacity for up to 1,000 additional tree plants, doubling the total capacity to 2,000 trees planted per year. The Tree Canopy Assessment, released in September, supports efforts to increase access to trees and their benefits in "under-treed" neighborhoods, as a part of the City's commitment to environmental justice. Information provided in the report is foundational to the Urban Forest Plan, as well as future policy and planning efforts.

For more information about Boston's Urban Forest Plan, please email parks@boston.gov.

Window continued from page 4

## Strong-arm or sensible review of House rules?

Is it a case of strong-arming groups that lawmakers don't like on Beacon Hill or a sensible review of lobbying rules as the number of advocacy groups proliferate at the State House? Commonwealth's Shira Schoenberg takes a look at House Speaker Ron Mariano's planned review of "unregistered, or vaguely-affiliated, advocates and coalitions." Fyi: The Herald's Joe Battenfeld has previously stated it's a case of strong-arming.

## New lows at the Heights: Black students feel uneasy at BC

The Globe's Deirdre Fernandes and Laura Krantz report that Black students have experienced one too many racial incidents at Boston College – and they're wondering what the heck the administration is going to do about it.

## Everett City Councilor Gerly Adrien: 'I am not afraid'

Speaking of racial tensions, Everett City Councilor Gerly

Adrien, a Black woman, is stating emphatically that she's "not afraid" of the criticism and belittlement aimed at her by Mayor Carlo DeMaria and her council colleagues, reports Aiden Connolly at GBH.

## LA loves Worcester: California company doubles down on real estate buys

They really like it. A Los Angeles-based real estate company has bought a handful of downtown Worcester properties for \$13 million, doubling down on its earlier \$29 million investment made in 2019 when it bought the SkyMark Tower, Worcester's tallest residential tower. Grant Welker at the Worcester Business Journal has the details.

## Not just student government: Teens have say on Amherst boards

Start 'em young. Scott Merzbach at the Daily Hampshire Gazette profiles the half-dozen teenagers, some as young as 15, who are serving Amherst town government through their roles on the local Cultural Council and Human Rights Commission.



# AG Office Findings Clear DA Rachael Rollins' Of Road Rage Complaint

Despite what many observers believed to have likely been questionable behavior by the Suffolk County District Attorney, the Massachusetts attorney general's office did not find any civil rights or criminal law violations committed during an alleged road rage incident involving DA Rachael Rollins on Christmas Eve in Dorchester. Given the periodic displays of angry rhetoric since Rollins was elected, and her confrontation with a Channel 25 reporter following up on the incident that was captured on camera, public speculation remains as to the legitimacy of the complaint filed.

The findings were outlined in a letter written by First Assistant Attorney General Mary Strother to the State Ethics Commission, which will now take up the matter. The letter was first reported by Boston 25 News. "After conducting interviews and reviewing the available documentation and videos, we find no civil rights violations or violations

of criminal statutes," Strother wrote. "We are closing our review and referring the matter for such action as the State Ethics Commission may deem appropriate."

In a complaint filed with Boston police, Katie Lawson, of Dorchester, alleged that Rollins threatened to give her a ticket and activated the blue lights and siren equipped in her vehicle when she tried to merge into a lane Rollins was occupying in the South Bay Shopping Center parking lot. Rollins has denied she behaved improperly. In her letter, Strother said the attorney general's office interviewed Lawson and received a written statement from Rollins on the incident as well as additional written statements from both parties. The facts of what happened are "undisputed, with a few key exceptions," Strother wrote.

"In summary, Lawson admits that although DA Rollins had the right of way, she attempted to merge into the outgoing lane of slow-moving parking lot traffic," Strother wrote. "According to Lawson, DA Rollins used her Chevy Tahoe to block Lawson's vehicle, said, 'Don't try me today lady, today is not the day,' threatened to issue her a ticket, and used her emergency lights and siren. DA Rollins denies making any statement about a ticket but does acknowledge briefly using her emergency alerts to try to avoid a collision."

Lawson said Rollins left the parking lot onto Massachusetts Avenue and "drove straight through a red light in a right turn only lane," Strother wrote. Lawson also said the police report contained an inaccurate detail and that she never told the detective she spoke to that Rollins had her blue lights on while driving through the intersection,



according to Strother.

Officials reviewed security camera footage from within and around the shopping plaza. Strothers wrote, "While we identified some footage showing the interaction between the two vehicles, we did not find footage showing the exact moment at which Lawson's and DA Rollins's vehicles converged," the letter reads. "Nor does the video footage show whether or not blue lights or strobe lights were used at that time. The cameras focused on the area where this incident occurred were either poor quality, far away, or were not functioning."

Video footage does show a Chevy Tahoe "with the same distinct wheel rims as DA Rollins' vehicle" enter the parking lot as well as both Lawson's vehicle and the Tahoe turning onto Massachusetts Avenue, according to Strother. "The footage also shows the Chevy Tahoe, with Lawson's vehicle behind it, drive straight through an intersection at Massachu-

setts Avenue and Newmarket Square from the right turn only lane," she wrote. "However, the footage does not show conclusively whether the traffic light was red at the time. As DA Rollins and Lawson confirmed, we did not observe any use of blue lights at that intersection."

In a statement on behalf of the district attorney, Rollins' counsel Ronald S. Sullivan Jr. said the findings back up Rollins' story. "We are glad the Attorney General's office took this seriously and conducted a thorough and independent investigation," he wrote. "Their findings confirm what District Attorney Rollins has said from the beginning: she had the right-of-way and took necessary actions to avoid an accident. The Attorney General concluded that there were no civil rights or criminal law violations."

The statement added that DA Rollins "welcomes" the pending review by the state ethics commission, and "expects a quick resolution."

## NOTICE OF COMMUNITY UPDATE

### GREEN STRATUS CORP

Notice is hereby given that Green Stratus Corp will hold a virtual meeting on February 22, 2021 at 6:30 PM relative to its proposal to site a Cannabis Establishment at 558-560 Dorchester Avenue in South Boston. This meeting will be held in accordance with the Massachusetts Cannabis Control Commission's Administrative Order Allowing Virtual Web-Based Community Outreach Meetings. A copy of the presentation

will be made available at least 24 hours prior to the meeting by visiting [GreenStratusCorp.squarespace.com](http://GreenStratusCorp.squarespace.com).

Interested members of the community will have the opportunity to ask questions and receive answers from company representatives about the proposed facility and operations. Questions can be submitted in advance by emailing [haley.dillon@boston.gov](mailto:haley.dillon@boston.gov) or asked during the meeting.

**Event Link:** <http://bit.ly/558dotave> • **Event number:** 179 244 5094 • **Event password:** 558d

# The Wine Guy

## The Wine Still Flows During Lent

Football's over, it's still freezing out, and the groundhog said six more weeks of this. Well, it must be February. Never mind. Pull up a chair, grab a glass and try a couple of the following...

### 2016 Ch. du Petit Thouars Chinon Rouge L'Épée, (\$22.99).

Located in the vicinity of Bourgueil, Chinon and Saumur, near the western border of the Touraine appellation, the award-winning Château du Petit Thouars vineyard is planted in Saint-Germain-Sur-Vienne, on a clay and limestone plateau. This combination is ideal for the Caber-

net Franc variety which defines the wines from the Chinon area. Also known under the name "Briton", this variety produces thin-musked, blue-shaded black berries. Ripe grapes will give wines developing intense red fruit aromas. Try it with hearty stew or a Pot Roast with all the fixings.

**2016 Marques De Riscal Rioja Reserva, Rioja, Spain, (\$13.99).** Marques de Riscal Reserva is made from mostly Tempranillo grapes, grown in the best clay-limestone soils of the Rioja Alavesa region. Riscal Reservas spend around two years in American-oak casks, producing a classic Rioja: fresh, fine and elegant. Cherry-red color with good robe. Spicy, balsamic aromas of great complexity, with notes of ripe dark berries and light toasted nuances. On the palate it is full and tasty, with good structure and rounded, elegant tannins. The finish is long and fresh, with a slight reminder of the fine oak.

**Frei Brothers Sonoma Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon, Alexander Valley, California, (\$24.99).** The Frei Brothers Reserve Alexander Valley Cabernet Sauvignon opens with aromas of jammy dark fruit accentuated by hints of toasted oak and molasses. The complex, full-



bodied palate boasts silky tannins and bold fruit notes of blackberry, fig and ripe plum that blend with deep notes of vanilla and spice. The finish is long and smooth. Try this one with a grilled New York strip steak or a Black Angus Roast.

**Southern Right Pinotage, 2019, Walker Bay, South Africa, (\$25.99).** The 2019 Southern Right Pinotage is a sensational wine by Anthony Hamilton-Russell. Stony terroir combines with shades of blood orange zest, bright guava and smoke on the nose. The palate is

dense and plush with layers of pretty red fruits with rose water, smoked brisket and minerals. You might want this one with a grilled Salmon or Sea Bass, or, Roasted Duck in a Plumb reduction. Pinotage is from the Hermitage/Rhone family of grapes and is predominantly a red varietal, though you'll also see the Blanc or white style now and then; if you do, try that one as well and pair it with Tuscan Chicken or Asian Fusion cuisine.

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

## VIRTUAL MEETING FOR PROPOSED RETAIL RECREATIONAL CANNABIS DISPENSARY

558-560 DORCHESTER AVE ("The Connection")

MEETING DATE: Monday, February 22nd from 6:30 to 8:30

### Log on information:

Event Link: <http://bit.ly/558dotave>

Event number: 179 244 5094

Event password: 558d

Our Viewpoint,

Andrew Square Civic Association does not support cannabis dispensaries in our neighborhood at this time, and members voted unanimously in 2020 to oppose any such establishments.

Andrew Square is located at the crossroads of "Methadone Mile", and well known for the numerous methadone clinics, recovery

and rehabilitation programs, and homeless centers in the vicinity, as well as the resulting problems residents of the area encounter on a daily basis. It is a site of frequent overdoses, and our neighborhood has seen an increase in crime, including residential break-ins, motor vehicle break-ins, robberies, assault and property damage as a result.

Our local businesses have also been negatively impacted as well. Addiction is an overwhelming problem in our neighborhood, and in an effort to combat the issue, we have many social service agencies

doing their utmost to assist those afflicted with this disease.

As ASCA does recognize and respect that the proponents have every right to garner support for this business endeavor, we feel very strongly that there are more suitable locations.

In response to similar requests, we suggest a more densely populated business district as an alternative, where customers may obtain services, and safely return to their residence or business. Sadly, residents of our many small streets and private ways have been targeted by those who

sell or purchase prescribed medications illegally. We firmly believe that these businesses should be located away from residential communities, as well as recovery and rehabilitation

We do not oppose cannabis (marijuana) dispensaries or the services they provide. However, we feel strongly that a business of this nature would not add value nor improve the area but would only add to the myriad of problems and would likely have a negative impact on those who are trying to overcome addiction.

Andrew Square Civic Association  
"We care, about the Square"





# Recent South Boston Real Estate Sales

Property/Type	Price	Sale Date	Rooms	Baths	Sq Ft
167 Athens Street Single Family	\$1,295,000	12/4/20	7	2.5	1,784
902 East Fourth Street Single Family	\$975,000	11/25/20	10	1.5	1,936
39 H St UNIT3 Condo	\$555,000	12/31/20	4	1	668
5 Grimes St UNIT 1 Condo	\$555,000	12/31/20	4	2	1,009
39 I St UNIT 1 Condo	\$550,000	11/13/20	3	1	695
584 East Seventh St UNIT 3 Condo	\$550,000	11/19/20	3	1	601
98 H ST UNIT 2 Condo	\$547,000	11/25/20	5	1	701
216 E St UUNIT 3 Condo	\$540,000	12/29/20	3	1	630
110 N St UNIT 1 Condo	\$537,000	12/16/20	3	1	636
7 Gates St UNIT 1 Condo	\$533,000	12/9/20	5	1	660
420 West Broadway UNIT 303 Condo	\$502,000	11/19/20	2	1	544
420 West Broadway UNIT 203 Condo	\$497,500	11/18/20	2	1	544
350 West Fourth St UNIT 200 Condo	\$490,000	11/20/20	5	1	832
125 Farragut Road UN IT 30A Condo	\$466,000	11/20/20	1	1	595
1 Twomey Court UNIT 45 Condo	\$460,000	11/13/20	4	1	595
683 East Second St UNIT 2 Condo	\$440,000	11/30/20	4	1	532
252 Bowen St UNIT 1 Condo	\$433,000	12/11/20	3	1	466
131 I St UNIT 2 Condo	\$425,000	11/13/20	3	1	501
15 Burrill Place UNIT 1 Condo	\$420,000	11/24/20	3	1	431
767 EastT Sixth St UNIT 2 Condo	\$418,000	12/1/20	3	1	444

## bpda | Virtual Public Meeting

# 658-660 East Broadway

**Tuesday, March 2**  
6:30 PM - 8:30 PM

**Zoom Link:** [bit.ly/3qdbHEk](https://bit.ly/3qdbHEk)  
**Toll Free:** (833) 568 - 8864  
**Meeting ID:** 160 672 8224

**Project Proponent:**  
658-660 East Broadway Realty, LLC

**Project Description:**  
658-660 East Broadway Realty, LLC proposes to construct a mixed use development containing eight residential units, a restaurant space and commercial office space.

For more information on this project please visit:  
[bostonplans.org/projects/development-projects/658-660-east-broadway](https://bostonplans.org/projects/development-projects/658-660-east-broadway)

mail to: **Nick Carter**  
Boston Planning & Development Agency  
One City Hall Square, 9th Floor  
Boston, MA 02201  
phone: 617.918.5303  
email: [nick.carter@boston.gov](mailto:nick.carter@boston.gov)

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

## bpda | Virtual Public Meeting

# 88 Black Falcon Ave.

**Thursday, March 4**  
6:30 PM - 8:30 PM

**Zoom Link:** [bit.ly/37iWgTl](https://bit.ly/37iWgTl)  
**Toll Free:** (833) 568 - 8864  
**Meeting ID:** 161 302 1316

**Project Proponent:**  
DIV Black Falcon LLC

**Project Description:**  
The Proponent proposes a four-story vertical addition of approximately 330,600 square feet to the existing three-story structure, which presently consists of approximately 353,910 square feet of Gross Floor Area. With the proposed vertical addition, the 88 Black Falcon building would total approximately 684,510 square feet of Gross Floor Area. The redevelopment proposal also includes expanded parking facilities for approximately 174 vehicles, such that the property would contain a maximum of 729 parking spaces, and site improvements. The Proposed Project is contemplated to include water-dependent/maritime uses, as well as office, research and development, and laboratory uses and will be subject to a future license application under M.G.L. Chapter 91.

mail to: **Nick Carter**  
Boston Planning & Development Agency  
One City Hall Square, 9th Floor  
Boston, MA 02201  
phone: 617.918.5303  
email: [nick.carter@boston.gov](mailto:nick.carter@boston.gov)

**Close of Comment Period:**  
3/6/2021

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# South Boston Catholic Academy News

## Celebrating St. Valentine's Day!

The students at South Boston Catholic Academy celebrated St. Valentine's Day last week! They made and gave their families, classmates and teachers St.

Valentine's Day cards. They handed out their Valentine's Day cards to their classmates and teachers during their St. Valentine's Day party in their classrooms before heading off

for February vacation. Our Student Council members and students in Art Class, also, made special St. Valentine's Day cards for our dear friends at Marion Manor. We hope that everyone had a Happy St. Valentine's Day! Esperamos que todos tengan un Día Feliz de San Valentín!

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.



**Kids Back to Class** continued from front page  
 tered. That puts Ms. Weingarten, leader of the 1.7-million-member American Federation of Teachers, the nation's second-largest teachers' union and a close ally of President Biden, in a tight spot. Responsive to her 3,000 locals, which sometimes push her from the left, she is also sensitive to a situation so historic as to be difficult to comprehend: For 10 months, tens of millions of children have had no access to in-person public education.

But with the pandemic approaching its first anniversary, and a new president — a union ally and with a soon to be confirmed Secretary of Labor Mayor Martin J. Walsh — vowing to reopen elementary and middle schools within his first 100 days, she faces a difficult truth: In the liberal cities and suburbs where schools are most likely to remain closed, teachers' unions are the most powerful forces saying no, not yet.

Not before teacher vaccinations, they say, or upgraded school ventilation systems, or accommodations for educators with vulnerable relatives.

Young children unable to learn productively via screens, low-income students without reliable home internet, those with disabilities and other vulnerable groups have been

hit hardest from lack of access to the academics and social services only school buildings can provide.

"We have to get this done," Ms. Weingarten said of resuming in-person education — something she thinks can be accomplished safely even before teachers are widely vaccinated, provided certain conditions are met, such as in-school virus testing. What she needs, she said, is just a bit more time to bring her rank and file along with her. "I'm confident that we will overcome the fear," she said. "But it's not going to happen in two-and-a-half nanoseconds."

Whether she can do so will be a major test of her own leadership, and of her ability to deliver a win for Mr. Biden, who has said open schools are critical both for children and the economy. Still, Mr. Biden and his surrogates have shown little willingness to speak forthrightly about union recalcitrance. Teachers, Ms. Weingarten says, have good reasons to be anxious.

A body of international research now suggests that in-school transmission of Covid-19 can be effectively mitigated with precautions such as masks and social distancing, especially where local virus rates are controlled. But with the emergence of dangerous new variants

and a slow vaccine rollout, teachers remain skeptical.

In Boston, similar calls with Mayor Walsh and district leaders were crucial when reopening talks were stalled over issues like classroom air quality, said Jessica Tang, president of the Boston Teachers Union. "If Randi has a relationship with someone, then those calls are helpful, especially if there is a disagreement or a situation where the parties are stuck," Ms. Tang said. Boston began a phased-in reopening last week and is scheduled to invite all students back to classrooms by April 1.

Parents have been able to watch teachers interact with their children online since the pandemic began, giving them a view that few had before. Many teachers are working overtime to connect with students in this new realm, impressing grateful parents who are themselves exhausted by the pandemic. And like teachers, many parents do not feel ready to return students to classrooms. Black, Latino and Asian parents have been especially likely to opt out, both because the virus has disproportionately affected communities of color, and because they may have less confidence than white parents that their children's needs will be met in public schools.

Parents log into Zoom school board meetings and Twitter debates armed with studies they say prove that in-person learning is safe. Some organize under the hashtag #open-schools, arguing that doing so would be most beneficial to low-income and nonwhite students, while also relieving all families from the strain of remote learning.

Some parents have moved their children into private schools, which are more likely to be open, or charter schools, which are just as likely to be closed, but in some cases pivoted faster to live, online teaching. Others are home-schooling or joining with neighbors to form educational pods.

While these parents represent a small movement, they are part of a national decline in public school enrollment during the pandemic — a trend that could have broad implications for school funding and political support for public education.

Ms. Weingarten hopes the country can give her, and President Biden, a few weeks — or maybe months — to make it happen. Congress needs to pass new stimulus funding for hygiene and virus testing, she says. The C.D.C. is expected to issue more reliable, detailed safety guidance to schools.



# St. Peter Academy “Live and In-Person” Happy 100 Days of School!

Staying true to its mission of educating the whole child, St. Peter Academy has been moving and shaking through the pandemic. “Students have not missed a beat learning in person every school day, due in large part to our community of dedicated teachers and the rigorous curriculum taught at the Academy”, remarked

Andrius Dilba, the Academy’s Chief Educational Officer. “Additionally, we have a very high level of health and safety policies and protocols in place that the whole school community practices – We are very grateful to our staff and families for working together to keep us all safe and our school continuously open.”

On Friday February 12, 2021, the

Academy celebrated 100 Days of School, Valentine’s Day and the start of Chinese New Year. Students wore Red/Pink or dressed as Centurions to mark the day. Grades 3&4 delivered 100 Valentine Cards to the residents of Marian Manor made by all the students. “We miss our weekly visits with the residents, we hope the cards brightened their day”, said Student Council Representative, Fiona Condon.

Also, fifteen (15) bags of nonperishable food items were collected through the efforts of the Student Council and donated to St. Monica’s Church Food Pantry. “Thank you to all our generous families for the donations”, exclaimed Student

Council President, Mairead Kelly. It is very much appreciated and truly shows we are a community-oriented school family.

*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. Appointments for individual virtual tours can be made by contacting Maria Blasi, at 617-268-0750 or by emailing m.blasi@StPeterAcademy.com.*






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## This week, Danny shared his thoughts on the Patriots' current quarterback situation:

**S**o, what is it exactly that the New England Patriots are trying to do at the quarterback position?

It's only mid-February, but I have a weird feeling that Bill Belichick is going to bring back Cam Newton on another "low-risk" one-year contract. I put "low-risk" in quotations because, if you're a fan that's looking for the Patriots to get back to their winning ways, then bringing back Newton for another stint is in fact a risk higher than "low."

In Belichickian terms, that low risk would be contract-related. Right now, Newton could come at a bargain. Why? Because, for lack of a better description of his play in 2020, he stinks.

Newton threw just 8 touchdown passes and 10 interceptions last season, in 15 games with the Patriots. Ok, so he rushed for 12 touchdowns as well. Clearly though, if you watched, you'll know that he just can't throw the football.

I haven't always said that about Newton. I've always been one of his biggest fans, and I've been on the record about that many times in the past. And I won't lie, even though I never wanted to see

Brady leave, once he did, I was excited to see that the Patriots went out and signed Newton.

The first time around, that was a low-risk, high-reward signing. Belichick took a flyer on a former MVP who had a chip on his shoulder after the rest of the league seemingly passed on him in free agency. Even in hindsight, it was a great move by Belichick.

But that was last offseason. Now that the Newton experiment didn't work out, it's certainly not in the Patriots' best interest to try it all over again, as if things will be different the second time around.

Spoiler alert: Things will not be different the second time around.

Still, I fear it's what the Patriots might end up doing. If so, it would be nothing more than Belichick's stubbornness at play. I can hear him under his breath now.

"Oh, I can't turn Newton into a Super Bowl champion? Watch me."

Believe what you want, but there is in fact an unspoken competition between Belichick and Tom Brady. Now that Brady has won a Super Bowl with a new team, in his first year with that new team, Belichick knows he's got something to prove.

But the Belichick vs Brady debate has never been as simple as, "Can Belichick win a Super Bowl with another elite quarterback?" It's more like, "Can Belichick win a Super Bowl with ANY other quarterback?"

Well, after a 7-9 season with Newton under center in 2020, we already have the answer to that question: No. No, he cannot.

That doesn't mean he should stop trying though. Belichick will have a second go at it without Brady in 2021. If he goes back to Newton, he's crazy.

I'm glad that he didn't trade for Matthew Stafford. He's 33 years old, has been in the league for 12 seasons, and hasn't won anything. He's got a big arm, but that's about it. I'm all set.

So who else is available?

The Patriots could always just go with 24-year-old Jarrett Stidham, who is still on his rookie deal for two more seasons. But considering the Patriots didn't let him start in a meaningless Week 17 game last season, it doesn't feel like Belichick is prepared to give Stidham the keys to the car.

There are only two other players who I'd like to see: Deshaun

Watson and Jimmy Garoppolo.

Both Watson and Garoppolo are under large contracts, but both have been mentioned in offseason trade rumors. If the San Francisco 49ers decide to move on from Garoppolo, the Patriots could somehow get involved in a three-team deal.

A straight-up trade for Watson would be ideal, but the Houston Texans say they aren't going to grant Watson his wish to be dealt elsewhere. Still, if I'm Belichick, I would do everything in my power to try, regardless of Watson's massive four-year, \$160 million extension that he signed before last season, which doesn't even kick in until 2022.

Acquiring Watson would be the definition of "going for it." Especially with the banged-up Julian Edelman now on the back end of his career. Will they do something that wild?

Another spoiler alert: Probably not.

Instead, brace yourselves for another frustrating year of Newton struggling to throw the football down the field.

I hope I'm wrong.

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# SPORTS TODAY

## BENINTENDI TRADED TO ROYALS

SBT Staff


After plenty of rumors suggested a trade was inevitable, the Boston Red Sox sent outfielder Andrew Benintendi to the Kansas City Royals as part of a three-team trade last weekend. The third team involved was the New York Mets.

In return, the Red Sox receive 26-year old outfielder Franchy Cordero and two players to be named later from the Royals, and 22-year-old prospect pitcher Josh Winckowski and one player to be named later from the Mets.

Kansas City receives Benintendi and cash considerations from Boston. New York receives 22-year-old prospect outfielder Khalil Lee

**Tweet of the Week**

Red Sox @RedSox  
#SoxSpring Revised Schedule:  
Feb 18: Pitchers & Catchers Report  
Feb 22: First Full Squad Workout See you NEXT WEEK! 🌴



2021 REVISED RED SOX SPRING TRAINING SCHEDULE

FEBRUARY

DATE	OPPONENT	TYPE
FEB 18	Pitchers & Catchers Report	
FEB 22	First Full Squad Workout	

MARCH

DATE	OPPONENT	TYPE
MAR 1	ATL	Home
MAR 2	TB	Away
MAR 3	MIN	Home
MAR 4	BAL	Away
MAR 5	TB	Home
MAR 6	MIN	Away
MAR 7	ATL	Home
MAR 8	TB	Away
MAR 9	ATL	Home
MAR 10	MIN	Away
MAR 11	TB	Home
MAR 12	ATL	Away
MAR 13	PIT	Home
MAR 14	TB	Away
MAR 15	ATL	Home
MAR 16	MIN	Away
MAR 17	ATL	Home

HOME GAMES AWAY GAMES

from the Royals.

Benintendi, 26, signed a two-year, \$10 million extension with the Red Sox last February. He'll be arbitration eligible when that contract ends after this upcoming 2021 season, and will then be an unrestricted free agent after the 2022 season.

After being drafted by the Red Sox in the first round of the 2015 MLB June Amateur Draft, Benintendi joined the big club midway through the 2016 season and then spent the next four seasons as Boston's starting left fielder.

Benintendi played in a total of

485 games with the Red Sox during that span, hitting .273 with 51 home runs, and 260 RBI. He also won a World Series with the Red Sox, appearing in all 14 of the team's postseason games during that championship run. His 15 runs scored were the most out of any player in that postseason.

The Red Sox are getting question marks in return. Cordero is 6-foot-3, 175 pounds and hits from the left side. He played in just 16 games with the Royals last season, and spent the prior three seasons in the San Diego Padres organization, playing in just 79

games during that span.

In those four seasons, Cordero has a .236 batting average with 12 home runs and 36 RBI in a total of 95 MLB games.

Winckowski spent his first five seasons in the Toronto Blue Jays minor league system, but was traded to the Mets just last month, as part of a deal that sent pitcher Steven Matz to the Blue Jays. In 54 career appearances (50 starts) in Toronto's minor league system, the 6-foot-4 right-hander went 18-17 with a 3.35 ERA in 263 innings pitched. He struck out 237 batters while walking 86.

## RED SOX SIGN JAPANESE PITCHER SAWAMURA

SBT Staff

The Boston Red Sox signed Japanese right-handed relief pitcher Hirokazu Sawamura to a two-year, \$2.4 million contract this week. The deal also includes a dual option for the 2023 season.

Sawamura turns 33 in April. He's spent the last 10 years pitching in Japan's Nippon Professional Baseball (NPB) for the Yomiuri Giants and,

most recently, the Chiba Lotte Marines.

He transitioned to a full-time reliever in 2015, and recorded 36 saves that season and then 37 saves in 2016.

Sawamura struggled last season with the Yomiuri Giants, and as a result, he was sent down to the minors. But after then being traded to the Chiba Lotte Marines, the veteran righty posted a 1.71 ERA in 22 games, striking out 29 batters and walking 10 in 21 innings out of the bullpen.

He becomes the ninth player born in Japan to play for the Red Sox, joining outfielder Dave Roberts, and pitchers Tomo Ohka, Hideo Nomo, Daisuke Matsuzaka, Hideki Okajima, Takashi Saito, Junichi Tazawa, and Koji Uehara.

To make room for Sawamura on the 40-man roster, the Red Sox designated left-handed pitcher Jeffrey Springs for assignment.

The Red Sox open spring train-

ing in Fort Myers with their first full-squad workout this Monday, Feb. 22. Their first spring training exhibition game will be on Sunday, Feb. 28 at the Minnesota Twins' Fort Myers facility. Boston's first spring training game at JetBlue Park is on Monday, March 1 against the Atlanta Braves.

Opening Day is on Thursday, April 1, as the Red Sox host the Baltimore Orioles at Fenway Park.

## WHAT TO WATCH

**NHL THURSDAY, FEB. 18**  
New Jersey at Boston  
7 P.M. NESN

**SUNDAY, FEB. 21**  
Philadelphia vs Boston (at Lake Tahoe)  
3 P.M. NBC

**NBA FRIDAY, FEB. 19**  
Atlanta at Boston  
7:30 P.M. NBCSB

**SUNDAY, FEB. 21**  
Boston at New Orleans  
3:30 P.M. ABC

**TUESDAY, FEB. 23**  
Boston at Dallas  
7:30 P.M. TNT

**PGA THURS, FEB. 18 - SUN, FEB. 21**  
The Genesis Invitational  
12 P.M. GOLFC/CBS



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