



## South Boston's Celebration Is Still Among The Most Popular St. Patrick's Day Traditions

*Leprechauns weren't always wee green men; St. Patrick's Day 2021 falls on Wednesday, March 17; Though the pandemic will surely affect how the Irish holiday is celebrated, St. Patrick's Day is historically observed through a number of traditions; These include preparing food*

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# EDITORIAL

## Teachers Are There To Educate Not Indoctrinate

In South Boston, as well as locations in every part of the country, parents are finally waking up to - and in some cases are in shock at - what is taking place in many public school districts. There are now schools at every grade level, yes, even at the Elementary level, that are doing less educating and more political indoctrinating. To be clear, it's nowhere near all teachers. Most are dedicated professionals with legitimate concern for their students and do a great job. But there are some who clearly have an agenda

and feel they have a right to instill their personal political views on other peoples' children. We don't make this accusation on just hearsay. It comes from actual reports about a disturbing trend taking place, backed up by parental complaints, some of which are in the form of lawsuits against the offending school districts. It was just a few short weeks ago that news stories with photos were made public of the Black Lives Matter literature being passed out to children at the Condon Elementary School here in South Boston.

The theme of that literature was anti-law enforcement with the message interpreted as labeling police not as friends and protectors but as biased oppressors.

Last month, at a middle school in Watertown, Massachusetts, parents were outraged when they learned that a Spanish Language teacher at that facility decided to show videos to students that many parents deemed to be not only anti-police but anti-American in general. The outcry has prompted an investigation and has the Watertown community in an uproar. Some parents

are insisting that the Spanish Language teacher be reprimanded and even fired. Sadly, these seem to be no longer isolated incidents. The same types of political indoctrination of students, with the approval of some local teachers' unions, is becoming common place and needs to be dealt with. Parents have the power and the right to take issue and put a stop to this practice before it is allowed to become the norm.

The bottom line is this: Teachers and those unions who condone or even turn a blind eye to this growing



trend need to realize and be instructed in no uncertain terms that these students do NOT belong to them or any government entity. They belong to the parents. Teachers do not have the right and should never be allowed to foist their own personal political agendas on children in their classrooms. Teachers are there to teach a specific curriculum NOT indoctrinate. This has to end and end now.

**“Somewhere over the rainbow lies God’s Country” - South Boston**

### A Message From The South Boston Allied War Veterans Council

The SBAWVC has partnered with Comcast (NECN & NBC Boston) on a thirty minute program honoring South Boston, Evacuation Day and St. Patrick's Day. The program will air on Saturday at 10:00am on NECN, Sunday at 5am & 11:30am on NBC and on Wednesday on NECN at 7:30pm. The program is entitled “Marching On: South Boston Revisited” and provides us a way to honor Evacuation Day and St. Patrick's Day in



lieu of a parade.

It will include clips from past parades, a performance of the Boston Police Gaelic Column on Dorchester Heights, comments from past Chief Marshals, the Consul General of Ireland to New England, and much more. Tune in and join us for this commemoration to our community!



### Three Former Chief Marshals At Medal of Honor Park

Chief Marshal **Susan McDonough**, U.S. Army Veteran and Commander of the Martin McDonough Post, American Legion #368, is pictured with **Tommy Lyons**, U.S. Marine Corps, Chair and Founder of the South Boston Vietnam Memorial and Boston City Councilor **Ed Flynn**, U.S. Navy Retired, Operation Enduring Freedom were seen at Medal of Honor Park discussing issues impacting veterans and military families. Carrying on the tradition and work, parade or not. Thank you!

SouthBostonTODAY

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# The Information Center

## *While the Nation Is Hurting, Banning Children's Books and Cartoons Is Their Priority*

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY

John Ciccone

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

Progressive tears were flowing on Tuesday and it was reported that many of them were stunned into a frozen silence. What's behind this tragic crisis that is causing so many leftists to be even more miserable than usual? Well, it seems that a school in Texas has as its sports teams' anthem, a song called 'The Eyes of Texas'. This is a song popular in much of the Lone Star State and is a well-loved tradition and one that makes most Texans proud. But, as bad luck would have it, a group of liberals, many of them said to be from a few northern states, were bound and determined to attack the song for being racist.

I mean think about it, if you're a 'lib', your train of thought is always about race and your goal in life is to find it everywhere. A good, practicing liberal can find racism in a pizza topping, so it should have been an easy task to find something racist about a school sports song in a Southern state, especially Texas – right? Well, unfortunately for the devastated liberals, every investigation had the same result. There was nothing racist or bigoted that could be found in the lyrics of 'The Eyes of Texas'. How could that be, and will the inquiring liberals ever recover from such a crushing disappointment? Stay tuned, as they are sure to try again.

But they shouldn't be disheartened. Just look at all the other things they were able to get banned recently. They took out Mr. Potato Head, Dr. Seuss, The Muppets and a bunch of very dangerous cartoons. They got rid of Elmer Fudd's shotgun and both of Yosemite Sam's six shooters. Speedy Gonzales has been

exiled to South of the Border, one of the few that went in the other direction and they made sure that Pepe Le Pew, the stinky, love sick French skunk was dropped from some upcoming movie roles. There is a rumor going around that Fog Horn/Leg Horn, that other famous Looney Tunes character could be next on the list because he speaks with a Southern accent, so he probably flies a Confederate Flag from the front of his chicken coop. This is how these people spend their time. They are never happy but are even less so, if they have nothing to ban or cancel and no traditions to ruin. The question is, when is the next full moon? Maybe, if they have something to howl at, they'll give the rest of America a break from their insanity for a while.

The Biden Regime, Pelosi and Schumer are set to roll out their Covid-19 Relief package. They are touting the fact that they will be granting \$1400 checks to many Americans. They are expecting big accolades and compliments because they will be giving away money; acting like it's theirs to give. But what they don't understand or maybe just want to acknowledge is that it's not their money, it's yours. It comes from the taxes we pay. Which brings to mind this very important point: The money comes from us - American citizens.

So, what gives Congress the right to designate a mere 9 percent of the nearly 2 Trillion dollar amount to hard hit Americans and send so much of the rest of it to Central America, Egypt, Pakistan and half of the rest of the world? Why should so many other billions of it go to Pelosi and Schumer's pet projects

and why should the Blue States that were run into the ground by their corrupt and incompetent politicians get much more of it – bailed out, if you will, by Americans living in the Red States, whose governors and mayors did everything right and didn't allow their cities to be burned to the ground?

This is a major concern to the American public. Congress acts like they are our rulers, and we are their subjects, and they have total say over how the money from hard working taxpayers is spent. Think about it. Congress decides that

families and businesses that lost everything only deserve 9 percent of this enormous bundle of our own money from a package that was supposed to be to bring relief and help get Americans back on their feet. \$1400 is but a drop in the bucket compared to what so many people have lost. 14 Thousand would be a much bigger help and it's something that a 2 Trillion-dollar budget could handle easily, if it was designated to the people who its supposed to go to and who actually worked hard to put into the United States Treasury.

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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.

### Relief on the way: Lawmakers reach deal to avert UI rate hike and exempt PPP loans from taxes

Beacon Hill lawmakers have reached a deal to freeze employers' unemployment insurance rates, exempt PPP loans from state taxation and increase paid-leave benefits for workers who contract the coronavirus, report the BBJ's Grey Ryan, SHNS's Katie Lannan and CommonWealth's Shira Schoenberg. They're cutting it close in terms of deadlines, but legislative leaders seem confident they can get the measures passed soon.

### When vaccinations aren't exactly free

The actual vaccines are free. But providing all those vaccine shots isn't free. And it turns out the Baker administrations sweetened the financial pot for providers to administer vaccinations – with in-

surers picking up much of the tab. And ... why do we get the awful feeling individual policyholders are going to get the short end of all this? The Globe's Priyanka Dayal McCluskey has more.

### 'Egregious violations': UMass Amherst issuing suspensions over 200-person bash

We're not sure what "interim suspensions" mean. But they're imposing them in Amherst, after UMass officials determined that "egregious violations" of COVID-19 restrictions were committed at a party of about 200 people that police had to break up on Saturday, reports Jim Russell at MassLive. Speaking of young ones, it seems most coronavirus cases today involve, well, young ones – and experts say it's largely because young ones can't help but act like young ones. MassLive's Melissa Hanson has more.

### Meanwhile, Harvard signals a 'full return' to campus in the fall

Speaking of higher education: As Harvard goes, so goes the nation? Kirk Carapezza at GBH spots distinct signs that Harvard University is poised to bring all students back to campus in the fall. And since Harvard's moves are closely followed by others, that means ... Of course, some schools have already brought back students – with mixed results. See above post.

### MBTA hedges bets on future ridership, plans both worst- and better-case scenarios

The MBTA is forecasting revenue shortfalls over the next four years due to the sharp pandemic-era decline in ridership. Then again, maybe it won't be that bad. And so, just in case, the T is planning for both service

cuts and some service restorations. It all depends. The Globe's Adam Vaccaro and SHNS's Chris Lisinski have more. Btw, via the Patriot Ledger: "South Shore may not see weekend commuter rail for months."

### Check's almost in the mail: Neal confident \$1.9T rescue plan will pass this week

U.S. Rep. Richard Neal, head of the powerful House Ways and Means Committee, is confident the \$1.9 trillion federal relief bill will be on President Biden's desk by the end of this week, reports Jim Kinney at MassLive. And that means individual stimulus payments of up to \$1,400 could be directly deposited in people's bank accounts starting next week, reports CBS Boston. Those without direct deposits should start to receive checks via snail-mail later this month. And don't forget: The bill also includes billions of dollars flowing to state government – and Beacon Hill lawmakers are eager to have a say in how those funds are spent, reports SHNS's Matt Murphy.

## MBTA Spring 2021 Subway and Bus Schedules Effective March 14



Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority

Today the MBTA reminded customers that upcoming spring 2021 subway and bus schedules will take effect on Sunday, March 14, 2021. These changes are part of Forging Ahead, the MBTA's plan to preserve transit access and quality of service available to transit-critical customers and were approved by the Fiscal and Management Control Board (FMCB) in December 2020 along with other service adjustments to other MBTA travel modes. These short-term service changes for Fiscal Year 2021 (FY21) help match service levels with current and near-term low ridership demand.

For full and complete listing of all

upcoming service changes, including all changes to bus routes, Commuter Rail lines, subway, and ferries, please visit [mbta.com/ForgingAhead](https://mbta.com/ForgingAhead).

### Subway Service Changes Effective March 14, 2021:

There will be no changes in the hours of operation or any elimination or consolidation of any subway routes.

Service frequency will be reduced by 20% on the Red, Orange, and Green Lines. Frequency on the Blue Line will be reduced by up to 5%.

For complete subway service schedules, please visit each line's individual schedule page.

### Bus Service Changes Effective March 14, 2021:

In order to better reflect ridership levels and preserve access and quality of service for transit-critical communities, a number of bus schedule changes will go into effect on March 14, 2021.

Bus routes with high ridership serving high transit-critical communities have been prioritized in the Forging Ahead plan and will not change. Other routes

will operate with less frequency, with both increased and decreased frequency depending on the time of day, or with their hours of service changed. A number of bus routes will be suspended, consolidated, or have routing or trip changes with service alternatives and details available online.

For complete bus route schedules, please visit [mbta.com/servicechanges](https://mbta.com/servicechanges) or each route's individual schedule page.

### Paratransit Service (The RIDE) Changes:

As a result of changes to subway, bus, and Commuter Rail service, The RIDE will implement the following changes in the coming weeks:

- Some RIDE ADA trips may become premium fare trips, complementing the changes to fixed route changes. RIDE service boundaries will not change.
- Trips will be scheduled 40 minutes from request time instead of 30 minutes.
- Premium service hours will be adjusted to complement Commuter Rail hours of operation.

RIDE customers impacted by these changes will be notified in

the coming weeks.

As part of its Forging Ahead initiative, the MBTA organized a months-long process to solicit the public's input, including more than 7,000 comments from riders and stakeholders. This process and the feedback received were used to shape the final plan approved by the FMCB.

The MBTA and FMCB continue to discuss how the MBTA will add back and increase service. Ridership will be monitored with MBTA staff returning to the FMCB every month to show where ridership stands compared to service planning scenarios. Other data sources will also be monitored, including passenger surveys, employer surveys, roadway data, general travel data, and economic recovery planning. FY22 service levels will be planned as part of the FY22 budget process.

For more information, visit [mbta.com/ForgingAhead](https://mbta.com/ForgingAhead), [mbta.com/servicechanges](https://mbta.com/servicechanges), or connect with the T on Twitter @MBTA, Facebook /TheMBTA, or Instagram @theMBTA.



## Sen. Nick Collins Named Chair Of Community Development & Small Business Committee

*...and Helps Secure Over \$10 Million for Local Businesses in his District Business Committee*

**S**tate Senator Nick Collins was named Chair of the Senate Committee of Community Development and Small Business for the 192nd General Court of Massachusetts. The Committee is tasked with all matters concerning small business operations, local economies, neighborhood and economic development, and community-based job creation.

"I am honored to be appointed to this important leadership role at such a critical time. As we seek to build back a vibrant, equitable, and accessible economy, our small

businesses need our support," said Senator Collins. "I am excited to get to work with our local partners in Community Development Corporations (CDC's), affordable housing developments, and Main Street Associations to continue that work of building strong and resilient communities."

The appointment comes after the Legislature has dedicated hundreds of millions of dollars for grants, resources, and support for small businesses across the Commonwealth. In the last few months, Senator Collins has worked with

the Administration to secure over \$10 million in small business relief grants across the First Suffolk District alone, providing over 300 businesses in Dorchester, Mattapan, South Boston, and Hyde Park an average of nearly \$40,000 each to support the local economy, create quality jobs for residents, and invest in our communities.

On March 4th the Mass Growth Capital Corporation (MGCC) announced another round of COVID-19 business relief grants. "As the consequences of the pandemic continue to be felt, there is consider-



able adversity in the small business community, especially in communities that have not historically seen significant investment," said Senator Collins "I plan to continue to advocate for more grant opportunities for our communities and work to position our economy for a robust and equitable recovery."

## Councilor Flynn Files Resolution in Support of Boston VNA Healthcare Professionals




**B**oston City Councilor Ed Flynn filed a resolution at this week's Council meeting to support the Boston VNA healthcare professionals, who are close to securing their first ever union contract. However, their efforts have been obstructed by the management's delay in bargaining an equitable and fair contract. This resolution sends support to

the Boston VNA healthcare workers as they negotiate their contract, and urges the BVNA management to negotiate in good faith.

Boston VNA is a certified home health agency that provides nursing care, therapies, rehabilitations, and other home healthcare services to patients in Boston. The healthcare workers serve patients in the Boston

area, and play an indispensable part in the delivery of medical care, especially as patients recovering from COVID-19 and other illnesses are often dependent on home healthcare. These healthcare professionals deliver critical services to homebound patients, and risk their own health to serve patients in this pandemic.

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# I Was Just Thinking...



by Kevin Devlin

In the nineteen thirties, the German Student Union, with the backing of the Nazi state (ushering in the beginning of relentless state censorship) started to burn books, targeting those deemed as subversive, representing ideologies opposed to the Nazis.

These included books written by Jewish, communist, socialist, anarchist, liberal, pacifist, religious, as well as sexologist authors. It was proclaimed as a crusade against the “Un-German Spirit” thus a “cleansing” by fire was needed. The first books burnt were books by Karl Marx and Karl Kautsky. The exclusion of the Left, democratic, and Jewish literature was first on their list, blacklisting Einstein and Freud, and many more, such as Walther Rathenau, Heinrich Mann, Thomas Mann, Friedrich Engels, and Felix Mendelssohn. German writers weren’t the only victims of these purges. French author Victor Hugo, American writers Ernest Hemingway, Helen Keller, Jack London, Upton Sinclair, English author Aldous Huxley, Irish writers James Joyce and Oscar Wilde; Russian author Fyodor Dostoyevsky, and many more, such as H.G Wells, were pronounced persona non grata.

Libraries were instructed to

stock their shelves with books that defended Hitler’s hateful ideology and destroy anything else which did not. And when the Nazi watchdogs ran out of books in their own libraries to burn, they turned to independent bookstores.

Any authors, artists, or scientists whose oral or written opinions were opposed to Nazi ideology were targeted. They were banned from working and publication. Their works were verboten, no longer found in libraries or in school curricula. Deprived of citizenship, some were driven into exile, some self-exile, some despaired and committed suicide, others died or were executed in concentration camps.

This happened all in the name of cleansing the impure, erasing history and culture to fit the narrative, signifying that only their viewpoint was fit for print, and those who strayed from this path were to be banished, deprived of their livelihoods, destroyed, simply for what they believed in.

Back then the Nazi state sanctioned the book burnings and the destruction of lives, while in today’s America, corporations, social media, and social justice warriors, allegedly fighting for inclusion, diversity, and equity against racism, scream from their righteous perches about what is right and what is wrong, what should be allowed and that which should be cancelled.

To them, censorship is okay, justified because the ends justify the means.

Yet embracing censorship as supposed defenders of democracy and of what they consider as past wrongs is ill-conceived, because their behavior, their mindset, makes them enemies of free speech, free society, healthy debate, diversity, inclusion, and equal treatment.

Ironically, all which they purport to be seeking.

But they are wrong.

And we must stand up and tell them so

# Boston dog licensing deadline is March 31

*Licensing data from 2020 revealed the most popular dog names in Boston*



With a current increase in dog adoptions during the COVID-19 quarantine, the Boston Parks and Recreation Department’s Animal Care and Control Division is reminding city dog owners that the annual deadline for licensing their pets is March 31. All dogs in Boston require a new license each year.

“A license is your dog’s fastest ticket home if they become lost, and it’s the law,” notes Animal Care and Control Director Alexis Trzcinski. “A dog license is like an ID for your pet. If they ever get lost, the chances of you being reunited are much higher with a license.”

In preparation for the 2021 licensing deadline, the Animal Care & Control Division analyzed licensing data from last year to reveal the most popular dog names of 2020. The top five dog names registered in Boston were Luna, Bella, Charlie, Lucy, and Lola. Rounding out the bottom of the top 25 were Buddy, Riley, Finn, Coco, and Winston.

All dog owners must license their dogs by Wednesday, March 31, 2021. Dogs must be licensed if they are older than six months. Owners must provide a copy of their dog’s current rabies certificate and proof of spaying or neutering. For an in-depth guide on dog licensing, including a link to license your dog online, visit Animal Care & Control’s how-to article.

The fees for licensing your dog are \$15 for a neutered male or spayed female or \$30 for an intact male or fe-

male. Dog owners who pay online with a credit card will be subject to a 2.7 percent service fee (the minimum service fee is \$1.00). License applications may also be picked up in person or requested by mail; walk-in and mailed payments are accepted via check or money order.

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 health emergency, Animal Care and Control office hours are limited; please contact the office ahead of your visit. Whether you provide your information and payment online, by mail, or in person, your dog’s license will be mailed to you.

If you are renewing a dog license, you will need to provide your dog’s license number. The dog licensing fee is waived for service animals and residents age 70 and older. Owners must also pay any outstanding Animal Care and Control fines. The fine for an unlicensed dog is \$50. Please call (617) 635-534 or email animalcontrol@boston.gov with any questions about the licensing process or to update your information in the database.

For current social distancing guidelines in City of Boston parks, please visit [www.Boston.gov/coronavirus](http://www.Boston.gov/coronavirus).

**TOP 25 DOG NAMES OF 2020**  
Based on City of Boston 2020 Licensing Data  
LUNA – BELLA – CHARLIE – LUCY – LOLA – DAISY – BAILEY – COOPER – MAX – PENNY – OLIVER – TEDDY – MAGGIE – STELLA – OLLIE – MOLLY – LILY – SCOUT – ROCKY – MILO – BUDDY – RILEY – FINN – COCO – WINSTON



# Despite Challenges, Mass Bay Credit Union Continues Successful Winter Coat-Drive Tradition



In a normal year, Mass Bay Credit Union branches are bustling with activity in December and January. And in a normal year, the Mass Bay Warm Hands, Warm Hearts clothing drive collected box loads of new and gently worn warmwear to donate to local family, women's and men's shelters. With branch traffic restricted to appointment only, one could expect the clothing drive to fall through the cracks. But the community credit union, which prides itself on its dedicated community involvement, was not about to let that happen. In the true spirit of their motto,

"Real Banking for Real People," staff worked hard to get the word out to members and together they found creative ways to fill those donation boxes. In all, they collected over 50 warmwear items to donate to the Friends of Boston Homeless for distribution to those in need. If you have new and gently worn clothing and missed this year's drive, simply leave them in any of Mass Bay Credit Union's ATM vestibules and the team will get them to someone in need.

"All of us at Friends of Boston's Homeless are deeply grateful to our great friends at Mass Bay Credit Union for their near two decades of helping our neighbors in need at the Woods Mul-len Women's and Southampton Men's Emergency Shelters," says Mariann Bucina Roca, Executive Director of the Friends of Boston's Homeless. "These warm coats and winter apparel items help our most vulnerable neighbors not only stay healthy and safe, but also help them maintain their comfort and dignity during

an exceptionally difficult time in their lives."

"It's really hard to find a better or more generous organization than the Friends of Boston's Homeless," notes Mass Bay CEO Terry Dorilas. "These items go directly to the community and those in need, immediately. Knowing how critical this need is every New England winter, we really want to thank them for all the great work they do!"

Like all credit unions, Mass Bay Credit Union is owned by the Members who choose to do business there. Membership eligibility, such as living in Middlesex, Norfolk or Suffolk counties or a dozen other towns, is located on their website [massbaycu.org](http://massbaycu.org). Opening a savings account establishes Membership and opens availability to all other products offered by the credit union.

In addition to its South Boston Headquarters, Mass Bay Credit Union has branches in Everett, Quincy, and the Seaport. Over 19,000 people choose Mass Bay

Credit Union for great rates, low fees, and personal service. In addition to offering a full array of deposit and lending products, Mass Bay Credit Union Members have access to over 55,000 surcharge free ATMs and 6,800 credit union branches. In business since 1936, Mass Bay Credit Union has assets in excess of \$275 million. Through its Charitable Foundation, Mass Bay Credit Union carries out many initiatives throughout the year to benefit the people and communities they serve.



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# The Wine Guy

## Make Mine An Irish...Meal

As St. Patrick's Day is here once again, there'll be gatherings of all types and sizes to celebrate the day. I thought it would be a little bit of a departure to focus on Irish food first, then the wines that would complement them.

Try starting off with some **Irish Egg Rolls** -here's what you'll need to make eight of these beauties:

4 ounces chopped corned beef; 1 cup shredded steamed cabbage; 1 cup diced cooked potato; 1 cup shredded carrot; 1/2 cup thinly sliced onion; salt and pepper, to taste; 8 egg roll wraps; 1 1/2 quarts oil (for deep frying, or less if you want to just pan fry)

In bowl, mix together corned beef, cabbage, potatoes, carrot and onions. Season with salt and pepper to taste. Lay the egg roll wrappers on clean dry surface a few at a time. Place about 1/2 cup of filling into center of each wrap. Roll up into logs according to the directions on the package. Wet the edge with water to seal.

Fry rolls a few at a time, turning as necessary, for about 5 minutes, or until golden. Remove from hot oil



and drain on paper towels.

Try some Riesling with this dish; I suggest **Dr. Hermann Dr. H. Riesling, 2017, Mosel, Germany, (\$17.99)**. This wine is a light yellow-green color. On the nose, it offers notes of herbs and stone fruits. Sweet, fresh and fruity on the palate with a lively acidity. This wine is ideal for spicy food, especially spicy Asian cuisine, but but especially for Irish spicy food!

Another great wine for this dish

is **Gradis 'Ciutta Pinot Grigio, 2017, Colli, Italy (\$22.99)**. The Wine Buying Guide says, "The Gradis' Ciutta Pinot Grigio 2017 is a lively and sophisticated white wine. This wine is perfect for enjoying on a relaxing evening at home or for taking to a friend's party. It is excellent on its own, as an aperitif, or with a variety of light foods. A jewel-bright pale yellow in the glass, this white wine shows aromas of peach and ripe apples, with hints of more savory tones (think vegetables or tomato leaf). These savory notes continue onto the palate, which is plummy and nicely balanced." I agree and so will you and your guests.

**HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY!**

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

# ST. PATRICK'S DAY BREAKFAST March 21st COULD BE MAYORAL SHOWDOWN

## POLITICO- MASSACHSETTS PLAYBOOK

BY STEPHANIE MURRAY

**G**OOD MORNING, MASSACHUSETTS. Gov.

Charlie Baker declared a state of emergency in Massachusetts due to the pandemic a year ago today.

**ST. PATRICK'S DAY BREAKFAST (March 21 2021) COULD BE MAYORAL SHOWDOWN** — The growing field of candidates running for mayor of Boston better start drafting their jokes. They're expected to speak at the annual St. Patrick's Day breakfast this month.

The South Boston St. Patrick's Day breakfast was one of the first high-profile events to be derailed by the coronavirus pandemic last spring. Now, state Sen. Nick Collins is bringing it back on March 21. He's hosting the event for the second time, and it will be mostly virtual.

Guests include Gov. Charlie



Baker and Boston Mayor Marty Walsh, who could be confirmed as Secretary of Labor any day

now. Sen. Elizabeth Warren, who did not plan to attend last year's breakfast, will appear this year.

So will Attorney General Maura Healey, Reps. Ayanna Pressley and Stephen Lynch, state Senate President Karen Spilka and Cardinal Sean O'Malley.

The breakfast is the first time that candidates running for Boston mayor will appear together at a big event. On the guest list so far are City Councilors Michelle Wu and Andrea Campbell, state Rep. Jon Santiago and Boston's former economic development chief John Barros. City Council President Kim Janey, the soon-to-be acting mayor, will also be there.

The event is usually a place for politicians to rub elbows and crack jokes, but that will have to be at a distance. The breakfast comes as Walsh and other Boston officials urge residents to avoid St. Patrick's Day parties due to the pandemic. Collins is partnering with the Massachusetts Restaurant Association and encouraging viewers to order takeout from local restaurants on the morning of the event.



Recent South Boston Real Estate Sales

Property/Type	Price	Sale Date	Rooms	Baths	Sq Ft
289 E St UNIT 3 Condo	\$1,100,000	12/4/20	5	2.5	1,700
133 Seaport Blvd UNIT 612 Condo	\$1,080,000	12/23/20	3	1	691
530 Dorchester Ave UNIT 5 Condo	\$1,075,000	12/30/20	5	2	1,800
533 East Second St UNIT 301 Condo	\$1,070,000	11/13/20	5	2	1,245
148 Athens St UNIT 202 Condo	\$1,060,000	12/23/20	5	2.5	1,363
8 Grimes St UNIT 8 Condo	\$1,059,000	12/15/20	5	3	1,641
14 West Broadway UNIT 301 Condo	\$1,050,000	12/15/20	5	2	1,435
135 Seaport Blvd UNIT 616 Condo	\$1,048,800	12/30/20	3	1	648
269 Emerson St UNIT 3 Condo	\$980,000	12/4/20	6	2.5	1,294
545 East Third St UNIT 11 Condo	\$950,000	12/11/20	5	2	1,300
133 Seaport Blvd UNIT 512 Condo	\$948,900	12/17/20	2	1	611
533 East Second St UNIT 102 Condo	\$930,000	11/11/20	5	2	1,060
308 Athens St UNIT 2 Condo	\$925,000	12/10/20	5	2	1,250
135 Seaport Blvd UNIT 526 Condo	\$914,200	12/30/20	3	1	555
141 Dorchester Ave UNIT U910 Condo	\$900,000	12/14/20	8	2.5	1,866
35 O St UNIT1 Condo	\$895,000	12/15/20	3	2	1,104
415 K St UNIT 1 Condo	\$880,000	12/11/20	8	2.5	1,711
701 East Eighth St UNIT 2 Condo	\$875,000	12/1/20	5	1.1	1,234
420 West Broadway UNIT 601 Condo	\$866,750	11/19/20	3	1	861
537-539 East Second St UNIT 103 Condo	\$860,000	12/28/20	5	2	1,097
2 G St UNIT 1 Condo	\$850,000	12/7/20	4	2	1,183



SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES 2021

Massport is currently accepting applications for the following Scholarships:



• Thomas J. Butler Memorial Scholarship

Awarded to a high school senior who resides and is involved in community service in South Boston, with a minimum 3.0 GPA.

• Deborah Hadden Gray Memorial Scholarship

Awarded to a high school senior who resides and is involved in community service or employment in the city of Boston, Chelsea, Revere or Winthrop, with a minimum 3.0 GPA.

• Lowell L. Richards III Memorial Scholarship

Awarded to a high school senior who resides and is involved in community service in the city of Boston, Chelsea, Revere, or Winthrop, with a minimum 3.0 GPA.

• Diversity STEM Scholarship

Awarded to high school seniors of color who reside or attend school in the city of Boston, Chelsea, Winthrop, Revere, Worcester, Bedford, Concord, Lexington, or Lincoln, and are involved in community service with a minimum 3.0 GPA.

Scholarship applications must be received by Massport no later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday, April 30, 2021. For more information on these scholarships, including application checklist and criteria please visit [www.massport.com](http://www.massport.com)

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# A Memorable Night At The Fights



By Brian P. Wallace

It has been going on for as long as anyone can remember. The whole town would turn out to watch as many as 30 fights in one night. The fighters came in all sizes and all ages and abilities. If you grew up in Southie, that was the one event you didn't miss. I can remember nights when they couldn't pack another person in the gym with a shoehorn. I can also not forget one of the most highly anticipated fights that ever took place at the annual affair. It was 1964, and the anticipation of the fight gripped the town and divided it right down the middle. The match lived up to its billing, and people still talk about it today.

The Lower End pride was a young boxer named Tommy Connors who had already won a few National Titles and who, still to this day, holds the professional boxing record for the fastest knockout in history. Tommy knocked his opponent out, at the Boston Garden, in thirteen seconds, and that is counting for the ten-second count. One punch, three seconds, plus the ten count. But the Garden and the bigger arenas were a long way off from that night almost fifty years ago at the Muny. Tommy had something like eighty amateur wins and one loss as he headed up to the Muny, with his entourage, to fight a kid from City Point who had no amateur fights and would never fight in the ring again after the bout that night with Connors.

His name was John "Scratch" Scarcella, and he was known more for his work on the gridiron

than his accolades in the ring. He was a star on George McCarthy's Mohawks and later starred at Southie High, but this boxing thing was new to Scratch. I think the night Scratch fought Tommy Connors was the first time he entered a ring of any kind. I didn't know much about Scratch that night, other than he was tough as nails, and the kids from City Point hailed him as the toughest kid from that section of Southie. I admired his courage for even stepping in the ring with a rising legend like Connors, but when Scratch entered the gym, the place erupted. I was shocked by how small this City Point legend looked in street clothes. He had on a pair of glasses and looked thin. I said to my friend Knocko, "this kid is in trouble."

A roar sprang up from the crowd that could only mean one thing, Tommy Connors had arrived. Escorting him was an entourage of Saints, the toughest gang in Southie, as Tommy made his way through the crowd. It was fitting, that Tommy and Scratch entered the gym from two different directions. Tommy came from the door closer to the lower end, and Scratch entered from the door closer to the Point. It was like a Hollywood script. It was like a Celtics-Lakers seventh game. It took Connors at least twenty minutes to work his way through the crowd and down to the locker room. There were no neutral observers that night. You were either for Tommy if you were from the Lower End or for Scratch if you were from City Point.

Usually on St. Patrick Day fight nights, the locker room was pretty much left to the fighters, a few trainers, and a few friends. The locker room that night was packed with onlookers and fans, as the combatants prepared to do battle. With so many people downstairs in the locker room, I said to Knocko, "Let's go, now's our chance to get a good seat." We hurried upstairs and found

two empty seats four rows from the ring, as the fighters entered the gym. Connors had on high-laced black boxing boots, green and white trunks with a shamrock on the side. He had beautiful green and white jacket that said "Irish Tommy Connors" on the back. Scratch, on the other hand, was wearing a pair of ordinary gym trunks, a couple of white sneakers with white socks, and an ugly black sweatshirt, and he still had his glasses on. The difference couldn't have been more apparent. Connors shadowboxed around the ring, throwing jabs and four and five punch combinations at an invisible opponent. Scratch just stood in his corner and looked at Connors like he was crazy. "He's going to get killed," I said again to Knocko. Joe Heirty called the fighters to the center of the ring and gave them instructions. It was to be a three-round fight with each round lasting three minutes.

Scratch walked back to his corner, took off his glasses, and his sweatshirt, and all of a sudden, I saw a different kid. The skinny kid with glasses now looked like a linebacker and a strong one at that. He was well built. Connors looked small compared to Scratch as the bell rang. Connors danced around throwing jab after jab which did nothing to stop Scratch's relentless pursuit. "Stay out of the corner," Connors handlers screamed. Scratch seemed oblivious to the jabs and combinations that Connors threw from all angles. He stalked Connors like he was prey, and Scratch pushed him and tied him up and often looked clumsy compared to the polished Connors, but he never took a step backward. He pushed Connors into the ropes; he smothered him. Connors looked confused. "He's a lot tougher than I thought," I said to Knocko. Round one to Connors.

They came out for round number two, and it was now Scratch who was throwing bombs. Connors deftly avoided all but one.

That one, Connors took in the liver; you could see the pain on his face. Scratch continued to throw haymakers, and again Connors looked confused. Scratch had him off his game plan, and he won the second round. The third round, both fighters went at each other like rock 'em sock 'em robots. Neither gave an inch, and neither stopped throwing punches. It was now a street fight, and the crowd loved it. Connors hit Scratch with a five-punch combination with such quickness that Scratch was dazed. But, he took the punches, and even though he was hurt, he kept coming forward.

When the bell sounded ending the fight, the crowd cheered wildly as Connors and Scratch embraced in the center of the ring. It seemed like an eternity before Joe Heirty stepped to the center of the ring and announced that the judges had scored the fight a draw. It was the right call. Neither fighter deserved to lose that fight that night. Connors looked disappointed. Scratch looked happy to have survived and left the ring quickly before they changed the result. I thought Connors won and my friend Louie Lentini thought that Scratch had won, but Louie was from the Point.

Connors went on to have a tremendous professional boxing career and is in quite a few boxing Halls of Fame. He is still involved with the St. Patrick's Day Boxing Show and he works with young Southie boxers at Peter Welch's gym. Tommy is always giving back.

Scratch went on to have an outstanding football career at Southie High. Many believe that the Southie backfield of Pat Flaherty and Scratch Scarcella was the best backfield combination ever to wear Southie uniforms. I'll leave that for others. All I know is that on a cold March night in 1964, I saw one of the best fights I had ever seen. I am glad the tradition continues.



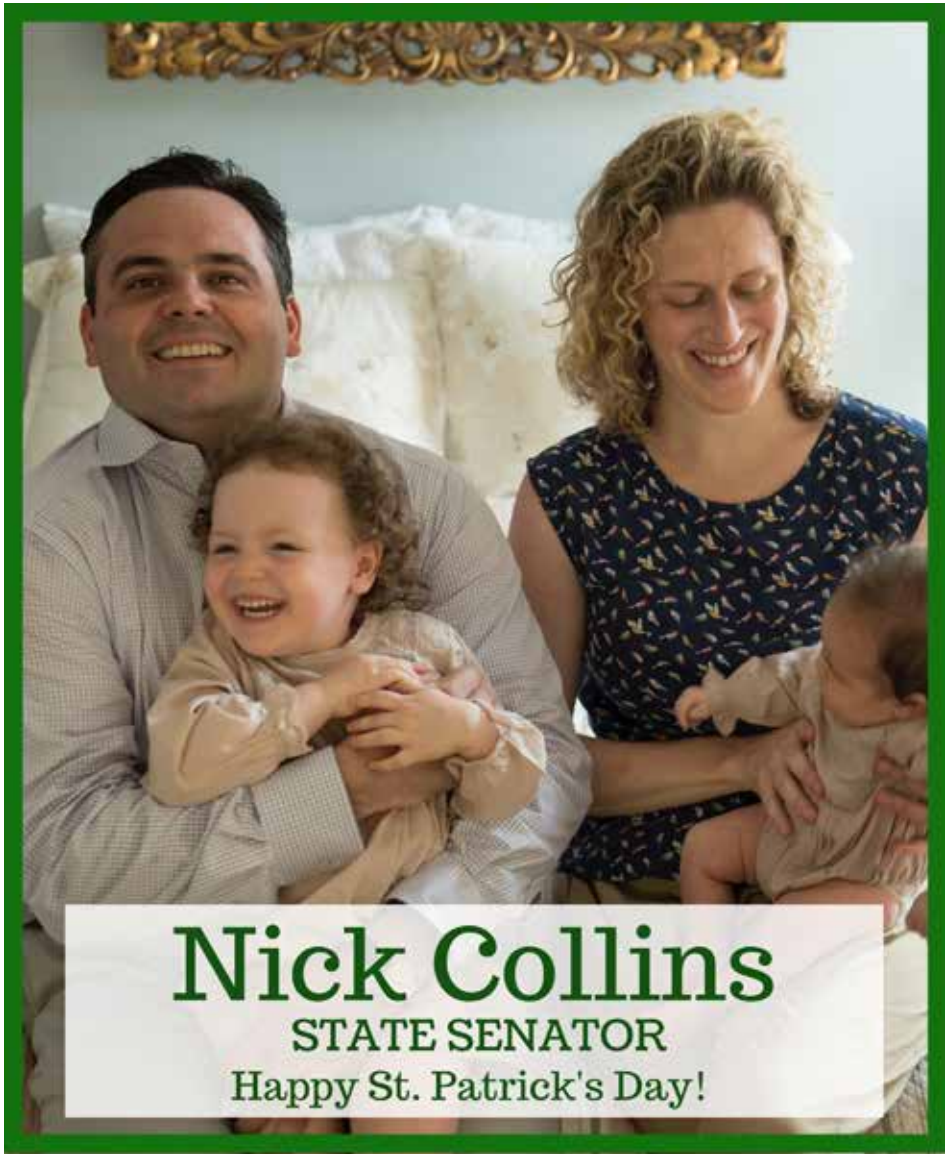


May luck be our companion  
May friends stand by our side  
May history remind us all  
Of Ireland's faith and pride  
May God bless all with happiness  
May love and faith abide.

*Happy St. Patrick Day!*

CONGRESSMAN & MRS.  
**STEPHEN F. LYNCH**

Paid for by Lynch for Congress Committee. Brian Miller, Treasurer



# St. Patrick's Day Facts

## What do you know about St. Patrick's Day?

Here are some interesting facts:

St. Patrick's Day was set aside to honor St. Patrick but was not on his birthday. It was on the day of his death.

Besides being a Religious holiday, it has also come to be thought of as the first day of spring to some. Cattle were led to pastures and Irish farmers planted grain.

In Ireland, St. Patrick's Day often features the old Gaelic sport of hurling.

It is something like our field hockey.

The day's symbol is of course a green shamrock. It looks like a clover with 3 small leaves and is often called a 'trefoil'.

There is a town in Florida named Shamrock. Every year people send letters and cards there to be postmarked.

What is a "Shillelagh"? It is an Irish symbol and word for a short, fat oak club.

Why picture an Irishman wearing a top hat and swinging a cane? Irish countrymen used to wear a jaunty hat with a high crown, and white socks below tight knee britches.

Below are some Irish American traditional dishes:

- 1. Corned Beef and Cabbage
- 2. Irish Stew
- 3. Irish Soda Bread
- 4. Mulligatawny Soup
- 5. Mashed Potatoes with shredded Cabbage (Colcannon).

The Leprechaun legends are fascinating. Most leprechauns are said to be rich and have bad tempers. They don't want to live near humans but if you happen to capture one – don't let him out of your sight. Why not? As a ransom, he might tell you where his pot of gold is buried. Of course, it's all in fun so make a fun day of it! Happy Saint Patrick's Day!

# CELEBRATING EVACUATION DAY & ST. PATRICK'S DAY



May your troubles be less  
and your blessings be more  
And nothing but happiness  
come through your door.

**David Biele**  
State Representative • 4th Suffolk District

(Paid for by the Committee to Elect David Biele)



## SOUTHIE IS MY HOME TOWN

I WAS BORN DOWN ON A STREET, RAISED UP ON B STREET  
 SOUTHIE IS MY HOME TOWN. THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT IT  
 PERMIT ME TO SHOUT IT, WE'RE THE TOPS FROM MILES AROUND  
 WE HAVE DOCTORS & TRAPPERS, PREACHERS & FLAPPERS  
 MEN FROM THE OLD COUNTY DOWN  
 SAY THEY'LL TAKE YOU & BREAK YOU BUT NEVER FORSAKE YOU  
 SOUTHIE IS MY HOME TOWN

I HAD AN ARGUMENT THE OTHER DAY WITH A GUY FROM OSCALOO  
 HE WAS BRAGGIN BOUT HIS OLD HOME TOWN SAYS I TO HIM WHAT  
 TO DO

GOT HOT RIGHT UNDER THE COLLAR TO THAT SCHOLAR I DID  
 HOLLAR

I WAS BORN DOWN ON A STREET, RAISED UP ON B STREET  
 SOUTHIE IS MY HOME TOWN. THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT IT  
 PERMIT ME TO SHOUT IT, WE'RE THE TOPS FROM MILES AROUND  
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 SAY THEY'LL TAKE YOU & BREAK YOU BUT NEVER FORSAKE YOU  
 SOUTHIE IS MY HOME TOWN.

## Danny Boy

Oh, Danny boy, the pipes, the pipes are calling  
 From glen to glen, and down the mountain side.  
 The summer's gone, and all the roses falling,  
 It's you, it's you must go and I must bide.

**But come ye back when summer's in the meadow,  
 Or when the valley's hushed and white with snow,  
 It's I'll be here in sunshine or in shadow,  
 Oh, Danny boy, oh Danny boy, I love you so!**

But when ye come, and all the flowers are dying,  
 If I am dead, as dead I well may be,  
 You'll come and find the place where I am lying,  
 And kneel and say an Ave there for me.  
 And I shall hear, though soft you tread above me,  
 And all my grave will warmer, sweeter be,  
 For you will bend and tell me that you love me,  
 And I shall sleep in peace until you come to me!



## *The Town I Loved So Well*

In my memory I will always see  
 The town that I have loved so well  
 Where our school played ball by the gas yard wall  
 And we laughed through the smoke and the smell  
 Going home in the rain, running up the dark lane,  
 Past ther gaol (jail) and down behind the fountain,  
 Those were happy days in so many, many ways  
 In the town I loved so well.

In the early morning, the shirt factory horn  
 Callde women from Creggan, the moor and the bog  
 While their men on the dole played a mother's role  
 Fed the children and then trained the dogs.  
 And when times got tough, there was just about enough  
 But they saw it through without complaining  
 For deep inside was a burning pride  
 In the town I loved so well

There was music there in the Derry air  
 Like a language that we all could understand  
 I remember the day when I earned my first pay  
 When I played in a small pick-up band  
 There I spent my youth and to tell you the truth  
 I was sad to leave it all behind me

For I learned about life and I found a wife  
 In the town I loved so well

But when I returned how my eyes have burned  
 To see how a town could be brought to its knees  
 By the armoured cars and the bombed out bars  
 And the gas that hangs on to every breeze  
 Now the army's installed by the old gas yard wall  
 And the damded barbed wire gets higher and higher  
 With their tanks and their guns oh my God what have they done  
 To the town I loved so well

Now the music's gone but they carry on  
 For their spirit's been bruised, never broken  
 They will not forget but their hearts are set  
 On tomorrow and peace once again.  
 For what's done is done and what's won is won  
 And what's lost is lost and gone forever  
 I can only pray for a bright, brand new day  
 In the town I loved so well.





# Legend of the Celtic Cross

Standing stones have long been the main points of solar cults throughout Europe before the advent of Celtic Christianity. Their shape meant to suggest that they were meant to represent trees which were held in great esteem by the early Celts.

The Christianization of the stones by carving crosses on them, a custom said to be introduced by St. Patrick was the start of the Christian presence in Ireland.

It has been said that the most important achievement in the history of Irish sculpture is the Celtic High Cross. These crosses can be identified by a large stone circle intersecting the arms and the upright shaft. From the early days of Irish Christianity, crosses had been set in slabs as symbols of the faith and put up in monastic settlements.

The predecessors of the Irish

crosses were possibly the stone crosses erected in North Umbria in the late 7th Century. Figured sculpture became a major element of the crosses. In the early pieces, hunting scenes, with a moral message appeared only on the substantial bases as at Ahenny. In the style of transitional, shafts became covered with relief panels as in the South Cross, Clonmacnois. The use of human figures on the Irish crosses may have been influenced by English ivories. The Columban monastery of Kells, Co Meath, has a transitional cross that being of St. Patrick and St. Columba early 9th century which indeed carries a number of Biblical scenes. The area around Kells appears to have been vital in the development of later high crosses in eastern and northern Ireland.

The group of central figures of scriptural high crosses has a set

religious subject which is based on the themes of Gog's grace to man's and the links between events in the Old and New Testaments. There, ideas relate to the Reformist Celi D movement, with it's new great interest in the Scriptures. There crosses look forward to the Irish Romanesque Art Movement and the Celtic culture in general. The best example is the Cross of Muiredach and the West Cross of the Scriptures of Monasterboice in Co Louth. The figures are in this instance cut in sandstone. Figured panels are on the base of the shaft and ornamental panels the narrow face. There is generally a Crucifix on one side with the New Testament scenes in panels beneath; on the other face are the Last Judgment and Old Testament scenes.

The terrible Viking attacks appeared to have stopped the carving



of high crosses in the South of Ireland, and later some crosses were erected in the North.

This great development of the Irish Cross indicates the deep and solid Christian faith which the Irish people had and continue to have to the present day.

**Happy St. Patrick's Day**

**Michael Flaherty**  
BOSTON CITY COUNCILOR AT-LARGE

www.MichaelFlaherty.com    Paid for by The Michael F. Flaherty Committee

**Happy St. Patrick's Day**

**from the Flynn Family**  
**Ed, Kristen, Caroline & Stephen**

*Paid for and authorized by the Friends of Ed Flynn Committee*





## TITANIC AND IRELAND

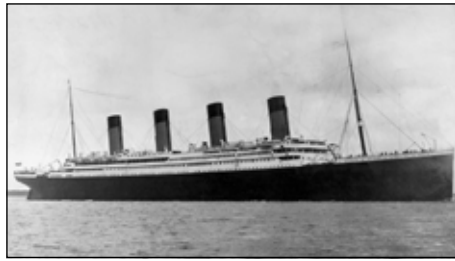
The Titanic was built at the Harland and Wolff Shipyards in Belfast in Northern Ireland in 1912. It was 882 feet long and had a gross tonnage of 45,000 ton. It was the worlds biggest boat.

Owned by The White Star Line who intended employing the ship (as well as the Olympic - the sister boat) for transatlantic traffic between Europe and America. The White Star Line, owners of the Titanic, and also the builders, Harland and Wolff, never publicly stated that the Titanic was unsinkable.

Despite carrying a maximum capacity of over 3200 passengers and crew the ship was only equipped with 16 lifeboats and a handful of life rafts. In total only one third of all those aboard could have fitted into the life saving measures.

Passage cost anywhere between 870 and 2 pounds, with the majority of passengers third class) opting for the cheaper fare.

Splendour abounded on board the magnificent vessel with some of the rooms even having fireplaces that burned coal in the sitting room, and gigantic beds in the bedroom. Huge



500 foot promenades demonstrated the sheer scale of the boat.

Captain at the maiden voyage was E.J. Smith who had sailed over two million miles for The White Star Line who had complete confidence in him. The Titanic was to have been his last voyage before retirement.

Some 63 males and 60 females boarded the giant ship at Cobh at the very South of Ireland. The people of Cobh erected a memorial to the Irish victims of the voyage. The memorial was unveiled in 1998 by Liam Birke, T.D., who was the nephew of one of the deceased passengers, Jeremiah Burke. The monument features the Rice family, all six of whom perished, along with 70 other passengers who boarded at the Cork port.

Titanic and Ireland - An article provided by The Information about Ireland Site.

## First St. Patrick's Day Parade Held In 1737



The first meeting of Irishmen on American soil to honor St. Patrick took place in Boston on March 17th, 1737. The first St. Patrick's Day parade was held in New York in 1762. Curiously enough, before marching caught on, St. Patrick's Day was celebrated with huge breakfasts, held around 2pm in local taverns.

Some of these breakfasts were private affairs, others were hosted by the newly formed Irish Friendly Societies. Often, forty or fifty toasts were made in one sitting!

A report in the American newspaper, 'The Gazette' in 1766 states: "St. Patrick's Day was ushered in with fife and drum. This produced a very agreeable harmony before the doors of many gentlemen of the Irish nation."

The general tradition of organizing St. Patrick's Day parades originated in the nineteenth century. After New York, Boston had its first parade in 1812. By the late 1860's, over a dozen American cities had large St. Patrick's Day parades. Just 10 years later, the Irish were the majority in population in New York. Not surprisingly, it was largely due to the American example that St. Patrick's Day is celebrated throughout the world – even in places where the Irish connection is slight, like New Orleans and Puerto Rico.

## Beef and Guinness Stew

Guinness Stout adds lots of flavor to this hearty beef stew. Use round or lean chuck in this recipe. It's a great stew to serve when celebrating the Parade! Enjoy with crusty rolls or biscuits and a salad.



### Preparation:

In a large saucepan or Dutch oven over medium heat, cook the bacon, turning, until lightly browned.

In a food storage bag, combine the flour, 1/2 teaspoon of salt, and pepper. Add beef cubes and toss until well coated.

Add the beef and onions to the bacon and continue cooking, turning frequently, until beef and onions are browned. Add the garlic and cook, stirring, for 1 minute longer. Add the carrots, stout, and broth. Stir in the tomato paste and Worcestershire sauce. Add the bay leaf and bring to a boil. Reduce heat to low, cover, and cook at a low simmer for 1 1/2 to 2 hours, or until beef is very tender.

Add the thyme and potatoes to the beef mixture and bring to a boil. Cover, reduce heat, and simmer for about 30 minutes longer, until potatoes are tender.

Stir in the parsley and add salt and pepper, to taste. Cook for 5 minutes longer.

Serve with crusty rolls, biscuits, or slices of freshly baked Irish soda bread. **Serves 6.**

**Yield: Serves 6 to 8**

### Ingredients:

- 3 thick slices bacon, diced
- 2 pounds lean stew beef, round or lean chuck, cut in 1-inch cubes
- 1/4 cup all-purpose flour
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon ground black pepper
- 2 large onions, chopped, about 2 to 3 cups
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 2 to 3 cups diced or sliced carrots
- 1 1/2 cups Guinness stout
- 1 cup beef broth
- 2 tablespoons tomato paste
- 2 teaspoons Worcestershire sauce
- 1 bay leaf
- 1/2 teaspoon dried leaf thyme
- 2 to 3 cups diced potatoes
- 2 tablespoons fresh chopped parsley
- salt and pepper, to taste

## Great Recipe for Real Irish Coffee!!



- Strong Freshly Brewed Coffee
- 1-2 teaspoons of brown or white sugar
- 2 ounces of Irish whiskey
- Heavy cream whipped only until lightly thickened

Warm an Irish Coffee mug by filling it with hot water. Discard hot water. Fill mug about 3/4 full with coffee. Stir in sugar and Irish whiskey. Crown coffee with a half inch dollar of lightly whipped cream. To float cream, pour it into a spoon resting on top of the coffee and allow it to spill outward, covering the surface. Do not stir. Makes 1 serving.



# St. Peter Academy Celebrates ‘Read Across America’ Week

Happy March! Last week we celebrated Read Across America Week at St. Peter Academy! We read over 100 books in the classrooms. On Tuesday, we continued the festivities dressing up as our favorite Dr. Seuss Characters in honor of his birthday. Everyone from teachers to students

participated in the fun. All the zany characters made an appearance: the Grinch; The Cat in the Hat; the Lorax; Thing One & Thing Two and even Cindy Lou Who! Happy 117th Birthday Dr. Seuss. St. Peter Academy really enjoys Read Across America Week. The celebration was fabulous, we love the wonderful world of reading!

The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go!  
- Dr. Seuss

*St. Peter Academy is an independent, community-based private school and serves students from ages 15 months through grade 6. SPA is currently accepting applications for the limited spaces available in the year-round toddler program (beginning at age 15 months) and for students in Pre-K, Kindergarten and grades 1-6. Appointments for individual virtual tours can be made by contacting Maria Blasi, at 617-268-0750 or by emailing [m.blasi@StPeterAcademy.com](mailto:m.blasi@StPeterAcademy.com).*







# South Boston Catholic Academy News

## How do you spell Excellence? S-B-C-A

**C**ongratulations to Ned Kiely, Grade 6, South Boston Catholic Academy's 2021 Spelling Bee Champion!

Ned broke a tie for champion with 5th grader Sean Costello and spelled his way to a win. Six classroom champions in grades 3-6 participated

in the annual school event. The other SBCA spellers who competed in the Spelling Bee are – Summer Maki, grade 3, Maddison Parthum, grade 4A, Marielle Nicholas, grade 4B, and Thomas Brooks, grade 5B. The winner, Ned, will move ahead to a local Boston Spelling Bee to be held

on March 20.

Using a hybrid spelling bee format, the spellers, who were competing in a separate space in the school, were cheered on remotely by their classmates who zoomed in to the competition from their classrooms. Shout out to all our wonderful

students in grades 3 through 6 for doing such a fantastic job in this year's Annual South Boston Catholic Academy Spell Bee!

Special Thank you to Mrs. Evan's for coordinating this school Spelling Bee. All of us at SBCA wish Ned that Very Best of Luck at this year's Boston Spelling Bee Competition. 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.



## The Claddagh Ring

**T**he Claddagh ring is named after an old fishing settlement on Galway Bay. Here in The Claddagh, the people elected their own king refusing allegiance to any other.

It is believed that Mr. Joyce, a Galway goldsmith, made the first Claddagh rings around 1730. Later, Queen Victoria had a Claddagh ring specially made for her. King Edward the 7th wore one when he visited Ireland. In days gone by, Galway forged strong trading links with Spain, so it is thought that the original Claddagh design is Spanish.

Claddagh rings are also popular outside

of Ireland. Highly prized in Brittany, they are used as wedding rings. The joined hands on the Claddagh ring denote friendship; the human heart, charity. And when lovers exchange Claddagh rings it means: "With these hands I give you my heart and crown it with all my love."

Not surprisingly, during the Famine, many people sold their Claddagh rings for cash. But as the Claddagh ring wasn't as fashionable then as it is today, many were sold for scrap. Sadly, hundreds of these beautiful old Irish Claddagh rings simply ended up in the melting pot.







# Compass On The Bay




There’s no place like Southie to celebrate this special Irish holiday! Residents enjoyed painting St. Paddy’s Day signs for their rooms, sampling soda bread from Greenhills Irish Bakery, and learning all about Ireland.




Residents pictured are John Campedelli, Joanne Clark, Blanche King, and Natalie Tyrell.


## Happy Saint Patrick’s Day

May joy and peace surround you,  
Contentment latch your door,  
and happiness be with you now  
and bless you evermore!



Michael J. Donovan  
Clerk Magistrate  
Suffolk Superior Civil Court





May God bless us with happiness  
on this very special day.  
Erin Go Bragh!  
Your friend and neighbor  
Jim Brett



HOME  
OF  
THE  
BUCKET

HAVE A SAFE AND  
HAPPY SAINT  
PATRICK'S DAY FROM  
ALL THE STAFF AT  
P.S. GOURMET  
COFFEE!

106 Dorchester Street, South Boston

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**Happy Saint Patrick's Day**

Castle Island Association C.I.A.





St. Pat's Traditions continued from front page

*like corned beef and cabbage, musical gatherings called "céilí," and decorating with symbols like shamrocks and leprechauns.*

**T**he first Saint Patrick's Day parade in America was held in Boston MA in 1737. Few holidays have transformed quite like St. Patrick's Day. It began in Ireland as a way to honor the country's patron saint, but through both immigration and secularization, it has now become a worldwide day to pay tribute to all things Irish. The date, March 17, is one of the few constants over the years.

According to History.com, St. Patrick's Day has been celebrated in Ireland for more than a millennium. It was a time to cut loose during the Catholic Lent season, and as such it quickly became synonymous with Irish food and drink. When immigrants from Ireland moved to the U.S. (and other places), they brought the tradition of St. Patrick's Day with them, and it morphed and modernized into what it's become now.

**The shamrock is a St. Patrick's Day symbol that dates to the 1700s.**

Per History.com, the shamrock has long been a piece of Irish iconography because it symbolizes "the rebirth of spring." According to Time, shamrocks are a trefoil plant, and were worn by poorer Irish citizens to church ceremonies on St. Patrick's Day, in order to look nice. Irish immigrants who moved to America in the 1700s brought the symbol and image of the shamrock stateside as a way of paying tribute to their heritage. It has a deeper significance as it relates to St. Patrick's Day, too, since St. Patrick himself

is said to have used the shamrock's three leaves to explain the Christian concept of the holy trinity.

**Religious services are common to honor Ireland's patron saint, Patrick.**

Though Ireland is growing more diverse over time, the country's predominant religion remains Catholicism. St. Patrick's Day has strong Christian roots, per History.com, that date the holiday back more than 1,000 years. St. Patrick himself lived in the fifth century, beginning life as a slave, and ultimately serving as Ireland's patron saint. It is said he was instrumental in bringing Christianity to his adopted homeland of Ireland, where he reportedly constructed schools and churches.

**Irish food like corned beef, cabbage, and soda bread are plentiful.**

One of the signature St. Patrick's Day dishes is corned beef and cabbage, a staple of any good holiday feast. Many Irish immigrants in the U.S. got their meat from kosher butchers—who were often their neighbors in densely populated urban areas—and so it's more accurately described as "Jewish corned beef thrown into a pot with cabbage and potatoes." Smithsonian reports that in Ireland, the more traditional St. Patrick's Day dish is often lamb or bacon. Irish soda bread is another food with surprising origins. It was apparently pioneered by Indigenous Americans, who used pearl ash in lieu of yeast, but became popular in Ireland in the mid-1800s.

**And many meals are washed down with a cold pint.**

Guinness told USA Today that roughly 3 million pints of it are drunk on the holiday, up from

600,000 on a normal day. Though beer is quite popular, there are many other beverage options, including cocktails using whiskey and Bailey's, as well as non-alcoholic choices like Shamrock Shakes.

**The leprechaun functions as the day's mythical mascot.**

According to CBS News, leprechauns originally were clad in red, not their now-signature green. In the 1900s, green became the de facto color associated with Irish culture, and eventually spread to leprechauns. Part of the hue change is also attributed to "The Leprechaun," a popular poem by William Allingham in which the titular character wears green. Leprechauns are often depicted with a pot of gold, which humans can only find by catching one of them. It's why making the aforementioned leprechaun traps is a popular pastime for young children on March 17. But don't feel bad if your St. Patrick's Day celebration is light on leprechauns—they have their own unofficial holiday on May 13.

**Irish music, both modern and of the traditional folk variety, is often played live.**

A "céilí" is an Irish social gathering usually centered around dancing to traditional Irish music. Ireland has its share of musical instruments that get the chance to shine during St. Patrick's Day performances. These include the bodhrán, a special drum, the Celtic harp, the fiddle, and uilleann pipes. More modern pop music from the Irish diaspora is typically played during secular St. Patrick's Day celebrations in many cities. This often includes the work of influential acts like the folk group The Dubliners, superstar rock band U2, and influen-

tial punk act The Pogues. And if you're anywhere in the northeast you can bet you'll hear "I'm Shipping Up to Boston" by Dropkick Murphy's.

**Parades are the best way to celebrate the diffusion of Irish people and culture across the world, especially in Japan.**

According to Time, the first American St. Patrick's Day parade happened all the way back in 1737 in Boston. Annual parades have been a staple since then, with major ones happening in cities like New York and Chicago. Another hotspot is Japan, where the I Love Ireland Festival and Tokyo's St. Patrick's Day parade have drawn as many as 180,000 attendees. According to Irish Central, there are strong cultural ties between Japan and Ireland due to their shared history as "insular island cultures," and the flourishing of Irish music and dance in Japan.

*No matter where you are or who you are...no matter whom you think you'd rather be...the Irish welcome you into their cultural family on March 17th. You are welcome because you have a 'soul' that is worth celebrating no matter your race, religion, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, age, or disability.*



Flynn continued from page 5

However, despite their work, BVNA management is proposing to cut sick leave benefits for new workers, and is refusing to give health care professionals the same bereavement leave benefits that are available to their union-

ized nurse colleagues.

"Our Boston VNA workers are at the frontline of serving our communities to ensure that they receive care in their homes, especially during this pandemic," said Councilor Flynn. "It is important that our Boston VNA

workers are treated with the dignity and respect they deserve as they perform essential services for our residents, and they deserve a contract that is fair and equitable. I urge the BVNA management to negotiate in good faith with these work-

ers, and to sign off on a contract that reflects the value of the critical work that our BVNA workers provide."

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



**B**efore you know it, we'll be right in the middle of the NBA and Stanley Cup Playoffs. Both will begin in May, which is a little later than usual because of the late start to the season for each league, but May will be here soon.

That also means each league's trade deadline is approaching. The NBA trade deadline is in two weeks, on March 25. The NHL trade deadline is next month, April 12.

Here in Boston, all eyes will be on what the Celtics and Bruins do at their respective trade deadlines. And I think, for each team, it's a somewhat complicated situation.

Let's start with the Celtics. Coming out of the All-Star break, the C's are the No. 4 seed in the Eastern Conference with a 19-17 record. If the playoffs began right now, Boston would be taking on the No. 5 seed New York Knicks in the first round.

Ahead of the Celtics are the No. 3 seed Milwaukee Bucks, the No. 2 seed Brooklyn Nets, and the No. 1 seed Philadelphia 76ers. Right now, the Nets are the favorite to come out of the East. Brooklyn also has the second-best odds to

win the NBA Championship at +300, behind the Los Angeles Lakers at +280.

The Celtics have the eighth-best odds to win it all, at +3000. So what can they do to improve those odds?

I think it's safe to say that Vegas has it right when they make Brooklyn the favorite to come out of the East. The current Celtics would most certainly have a shot in a seven-game series to beat the Bucks and the 76ers. But against the Nets? With Kevin Durant, Kyrie Irving, and James Harden? How do you stop that?

Do you get defensive and trade for a someone like Indiana's Myles Turner, who's averaging 3.4 blocks per game? Or do you try to keep up with Brooklyn's scoring by trading for someone like Washington's Bradley Beal, who's averaging 32.9 points per game? Or, if you're Danny Ainge, do you just keep it the way it is and hope that increased minutes for Robert Williams, combined with the return of Marcus Smart, will provide enough defense to let Jayson Tatum, Jaylen Brown, and Kemba Walker go toe-to-toe with the best scorers in

the league in the playoffs?

I'm willing to bet that Ainge goes with the latter and doesn't make any bold moves at this year's deadline.

If you put a gun to my head though, I myself would try to add Beal's scoring while giving Williams more than just 16 minutes per game to protect the rim. Even if that meant trading Jaylen Brown. I would probably do that trade.

Just don't trade Tatum. As I've been telling you for a few years now, he's as untouchable as they come.

As for the Bruins, they are the No. 4 seed in their division. Under the new playoff format for the 2020-21 season, the top four teams in all four newly-aligned divisions will advance to the playoffs. From there, the first two rounds will be played within each division. So, for example, if the playoffs began today, the No. 4 seed Bruins would play the No. 1 seed in their division, which is the New York Islanders, while the No. 2 and No. 3 seeds from that division would play each other in the first round. The winners of each of those two series would then meet in the second round.

The remaining four teams that come out of each division would then be re-seeded, potentially setting up a Stanley Cup Final that we've never seen before. Imagine the Bruins and Canadiens meeting in the Cup Final? This year, it could very well happen.

But the Bruins have to get there first. With the trade deadline still a month away, the B's have some time to think it over. But if they're thinking of making a run, they should in fact be thinking about trading for Buffalo Sabres captain Jack Eichel.

Eichel only has two goals in 21 games this season, but, that's still two more goals than Bruins center David Krejci, who has zero goals in 19 games.

I think it's obvious that Eichel needs to get out of Buffalo. He's only 24 years old, and scored a career-high 36 goals last season. He's under a massive contract that has a cap hit of \$10 million for the next five seasons. But he'd be worth it.

Charlie McAvoy and a draft pick for Eichel? Sign me up for that trade.

**Follow Danny on Twitter and Instagram @DannyPicard.**

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# SPORTS TODAY

## BRADLEY JR. DONE IN BOSTON, SIGNS WITH BREWERS

SBT Staff

Jackie Bradley Jr.'s days in Boston are done.

The soon-to-be 31-year-old Gold Glove center fielder signed a two-year, \$24 million contract with the Milwaukee Brewers this week. The deal includes an opt-out clause after the first year, according to reports.

Bradley Jr. was drafted by the

## Tweet of the Week



Milwaukee Brewers @Brewers  
The new guy's locker is ready and waiting.  
#ThisIsMyCrew



Red Sox in 2011, and played in Boston since the 2013 season. In his eight seasons with the Red Sox, Bradley Jr. was known for his highlight reel defensive plays in center field. But his bat also helped the Red Sox win a World Series Championship in 2018, as he hit

three home runs and had 10 RBI and six runs scored in 14 games during that Postseason.

The 2018 Red Sox championship team saw an outfield of Bradley Jr., Mookie Betts, and Andrew Benintendi. All three players are now playing for other teams. Betts was

traded to the Los Angeles Dodgers last offseason, and Benintendi was traded to the Kansas City Royals last month.

The projected depth chart for Boston's outfield in 2021 includes Alex Verdugo, Hunter Renfroe, Franchy Cordero, and Marwin Gonzalez.

## PATRIOTS BRING BROWN BACK TO NEW ENGLAND

SBT Staff

According to multiple reports, the New England Patriots have agreed to a trade with the Las Vegas Raiders that sends offensive tackle Trent Brown back to the Pats — as well as a seventh-round draft pick in 2022 — in exchange for a fifth-round pick in 2022.

Brown has also reportedly reworked his contract and has agreed to a new one-year, \$11 million deal with New England, which allows him to be a free agent after the 2021 season.

The 6-foot-8 left tackle won a Super Bowl with the Patriots in 2018-19. It was his only season with the team after New England acquired him in a trade from the San Francisco 49ers. After winning a championship, Brown got

his big payday by signing a four-year, \$66 million deal — with \$36 million guaranteed — with the Raiders as an unrestricted free agent.

Now, he returns to the Patriots under a new deal, removing the two years and \$30 million he had remaining on his Raiders contract.

Brown turns 28 next month, and he seems more than happy with the move, according to his social media posts all week.

On the day of the trade back to New England, Brown tweeted: "Money don't mean [expletive] if you ain't happy I swear to GOD!!"

Over on Instagram the same day, Brown posted a photo of him celebrating at the Patriots Super Bowl championship parade two years ago, with a caption that read: "I LOVE IT HERE!!"

## TATUM, BROWN COMBINE FOR 43 POINTS IN NBA ALL STAR GAME

SBT Staff

The Boston Celtics were well represented during Sunday's NBA All-Star festivities in Atlanta, with both Jayson Tatum and Jaylen Brown participating in the Three-Point Contest and the All-Star Game.

Tatum advanced to the finals of the Three Point Contest, but Steph Curry was able to pull out the win. Later that night, Tatum and Brown suited up on opposite sides. Tatum was part of Team Durant, while Brown was on Team LeBron.

Team LeBron picked up the All-Star

Game win over Team Durant, 170-150. Milwaukee Bucks star Giannis Antetokounmpo won his first All-Star Game MVP, leading Team LeBron to the win with a game-high 35 points in just 19 minutes as a starter.

The Celtics' Brown played 26 minutes off the bench for Team LeBron and scored 22 points. He was 8-for-12 from the field and was 5-for-7 from three-point range.

On the losing end, Tatum got the start for Team Durant and scored 21 points in 17 minutes. He was 9-for-16 from the field and 3-for-9 from three-point range, while also having seven assists, four rebounds, and four steals.

The Celtics return from the All-Star break this week with a Thursday night game in primetime against the Nets in Brooklyn. Boston enters the second half of the season as the No. 4 seed in the Eastern Conference with a 19-17 record.

## WHAT TO WATCH

**NBA THURSDAY, MARCH 11**  
Boston at Brooklyn  
7:30 P.M. TNT

**SUNDAY, MARCH 14**  
Boston at Houston  
8 P.M. NBCSB

**NHL SATURDAY, MARCH 13**  
NY Rangers at Boston  
1 P.M. NESN

**MONDAY, MARCH 15**  
Boston at Pittsburgh  
7 P.M. NESN

**MLB SATURDAY, MARCH 13**  
Spring Training  
Atlanta vs Boston  
1:05 P.M. NESN+

**SUNDAY, MARCH 14**  
Spring Training  
Boston vs Minnesota  
1:05 P.M. NESN



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# Happy St. Patrick's Day

✿ HAVE LUCKY DAY ✿



*Wishing the South Boston Community A Happy Evacuation Day  
and A Day Filled With Luck On The High Holiday Of St. Patrick*