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Metro

Former FBI agent pins hopes on Bulger

By **Matt Rocheleau** | GLOBE CORRESPONDENT | JUNE 18, 2012

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Imprisoned former FBI agent John J. Connolly Jr. believes he might be exonerated by information that James “Whitey” Bulger has revealed since the reputed mobster’s arrest last June, according to a report published in The Daily Beast, an online news website.

“My lawyers have information that since Bulger was brought in, he spoke to FBI agents and told them I had nothing to do with tipping him off” about a pending federal indictment, Connolly said in what The Daily Beast described as his first interview since Bulger’s arrest. “And he told them I had nothing to do with this murder in Florida, not one damn thing.”

In 2002, a federal jury convicted Connolly of racketeering, obstruction of justice, and lying to an FBI agent. Jurors found that he tipped off Bulger and an associate, Stephen Flemmi, prior to their 1995 racketeering indictments. However, the jury found prosecutors failed to prove the most serious charge against Connolly

— that he leaked information to Bulger and Flemmi that prompted them to kill three men. Connolly was sentenced to 10 years in prison.

However, Connolly, 71, is serving 40 years after being convicted in 2008 of second-degree murder for helping the Bulger crew kill Boston businessman John B. Callahan in Florida, who was a potential witness against them.

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Framingham pharmacy recalls all its drugs

The move comes after the number of meningitis cases linked to The New England Compounding Center nearly doubled over the weekend.

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Detours to begin tonight on Storrow Drive

State officials will close one side of Storrow Drive in downtown Boston overnight to make critical fixes to a crumbling tunnel.

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Holiday traffic delays expected on Pike

Travelers returning home after the holiday weekend should expect delays following the 45-mile traffic jam on the Mass. Turnpike Friday night.

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STORY 3 OF 15

Scott Brown, Elizabeth Warren keep on marching

The state's hotly contested race for the US Senate came to East Boston on Sunday afternoon in the city's annual Columbus Day parade.

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Riverside Theatre Works regains its artistic flow

With the help of the community, alumni and their families, the non-profit theater dedicated to teaching performing arts to children and teens appears to be rebounding.

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Harvard-Yale team on trail of electron's mysteries

An experiment run by 11 Harvard and Yale university researchers is designed to probe some of the same unknown territory as the Large Hadron Collider in Europe.

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STORY 6 OF 15

John Tierney in a battle he never saw coming

Rep. Tierney is counting on dragging out the Democratic faithful, while Richard Tisei is pitching himself to voters tired of the status quo. There are a lot of them.

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STORY 7 OF 15

Hit-and-run victim dies; police seek pickup

The victim of a hit-and-run crash in Auburn, Maine, has died of his injuries.

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STORY 8 OF 15

Missing 82-year-old woman is found

An 82-year-old West Roxbury woman missing for more than a day was found on Sunday, just a short distance from her home, Boston police said.

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STORY 9 OF 15

Lieutenant governor campaigns by bicycle

A 500-mile, 14-county bicycle tour is giving Vermont's lieutenant governor a new perspective on the state as he campaigns for a second term, not to mention plenty of time to think about the issues.

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STORY 10 OF 15

World champs win wife-carrying contest

A Finnish couple has added to their victories by taking first place in the North American Wife Carrying Championship at Maine's Sunday River ski resort.

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STORY 11 OF 15

Deer plentiful as hunting season starts

Last winter's mild weather coupled with the early spring green-up are expected to lead to a strong deer hunting season this fall in Vermont.

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STORY 12 OF 15

Wesleyan to end need-blind policy

Wesleyan University is ending its policy of remaining “blind” to all applicants’ financial needs while considering them for admission, saying it doesn’t have enough money.

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STORY 13 OF 15

Gay marriage foes launch TV ads in Maine

A high school guidance counselor whose job was targeted after he spoke out against same-sex marriage is featured in a campaign by gay marriage opponents that launches Monday.

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STORY 14 OF 15

Dead whale found in Boston Harbor

A dead finback whale more than 50 feet in length was found floating in Boston Harbor early Sunday morning, officials said.

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